CIRCULATION
LAST WEEK
121,000!
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NATIONAL
Weekly Newspaper
IN THE
UNITED STATES.

FOUNDED IN 1836. TOLEDO OHIO: THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1897. VOL. LXV: NO. 4.

Poetry.

THE SOWER.

The winds had hushed at last as by command;
The quiet sky above,
With its gray clouds spread o'er the fallow land,
Sat brooding like a dove.

There was no motion in the air, no sound
Within the treetops stirred,
Save when some last leaf, fluttering to the ground,
Dropped like a wounded bird;

Or when the swart rooks in a faltering crowd,
With clamorous noises wheeled,
Hovering awhile, then swooped with wranglings loud,
Down on the stubbly field.

For now the big-thewed horses, toiling slow
In straining couples yoked,
Patiently dragged the ploughshare to and fro,
Till their wet haunches smoked;

Till the stiff acre, broken into clods,
Bruised by the harrow's tooth,
Lay lightly shaken, with its humid sods
Ranged into furrows smooth.

There, looming lone, from rise to set of sun,
Without or pause or speed,
Solemnly striding by the furrows dun,
The sower sows the seed.

The sower sows the seed, which, moldering,
Deep confined in the earth,
Is buried now, but with the future spring
Will quicken into birth.

O, poles of birth and death! Controlling Powers
Of human toil and need!
On this fair earth all men are surely sowers,
Surely all life is seed!

All life is seed, dropped in Time's yawning furrow,
Which with slow sprout and shoot,
In the revolving world's unfathomed morrow,
Will blossoms and bear fruit.

—Mathilde Blind.

WHERE MOTHER IS.

In the crimson and gold of the setting sun
The white little lambs o'er the meadows run;
And the birds wing their way to the sweet home nest,
Where is waiting the one that loves them best.
There's a voice in the breeze that goes wandering by,
And a whisper that falls from the deepening sky;
Oh, the mother heart calls to each weary rover,
And where mother is, home is, the world over!

'Tis the song of the brook on its silvery way,
The crickets have chirped it with darkening day;
And the first pearly star in the azure dome
Seems to whisper a message sweet of home.
In the bud and the leaf and the slumbering flower
There's a thought of the peace of the rest-giving hour,
When the mother heart calls to each weary rover,
And where mother is, home is, the world over!

Now the brown bees have ended their day-long quest,
The butterflies folded their wings to rest;
And the twinkle of lights in the cottage-pane
Tells of joy that has blest the hearth again.
And I read in the eyes of the little ones sweet,
In the shouts of delight and the pattering feet,
Oh, the mother heart calls to each weary rover;
And where mother is, home is, the world over!

—Philadelphia Sunday School Times.

THE BABY.

Like a tiny glint of light piercing through the dusty gloom
Comes her little laughing face through the shadows of my room.

And my pen forgets its way as it hears her pattering tread,
While her prattling treble tones chase the thoughts from out my head.

She is queen and I her slave, one who loves her and obeys,
For she rules her world of home with imperious baby ways.

In she dances, calls me "Dear!" turns the pages of my books;
Throws herself upon my knee, takes my pen with laughing looks.

Makes disorder reign supreme, turns my papers upside down,
Draws me cabalistic signs, safe from fear of any frown.

Crumbles all my verses up, pleased to hear the crackling sound,
Makes them into balls and then—flings them all upon the ground.

Suddenly she flits away, leaving me alone again
With a warmth about my heart and a brighter, clearer brain.

And although the thoughts return that her coming drove away,
The remembrance of her laughter lingers with me through the day.

And it chances, as I write, I may take a crumpled sheet,
On the which, God knoweth why! read my fancies twice as sweet.

—Victor Hugo.

CANE AS A TALISMAN.

IN THE KNOB WHICH THE MANLY FELLOW PRESSES TO HIS LIPS THERE IS A PICTURE.

Bulky Walking Sticks With a Delicate Picture Surrounded by Pearls and Gold.

When Habib, the Arabian Prince, started out upon his travels across the desert and through the Black Sea to liberate a kingdom from the cruel toils of wickedness stretched around it, he took with him an enchanted mirror that on being rubbed showed the face of the Princess of the kingdom. Habib called the mirror a talisman. By its aid he drove back sea demons; by its help he vanquished the swordsmen of the fiery centers of the earth, and by its grace he saw not the mermaids that woke him each morning with their caressing fins of silver.

The young man of the incoming year will not have the enchanted mirror, for the Reign of Enchantment now provides nothing so marvellous. But he will have something just as effective and quite as constant—a talismanic cane! This is a thing that has appeared with the new year and will abide with it.

The talismanic cane has its origin in the camera. It is the result of the snap shot, the shot being taken of the Princess when she is at her prettiest, presiding over an evening chocolate table or posing in dignified grace in an opera box. Snap! And presto, her face is in the little black box for all time, when the opera and the chocolate table have her not.

The cane-maker takes the next step in the talismanic process. This wizard of the wood selects an immense cane of hard wood. The favorite is the white oak, as it will not break. Its only meretricious habit is that of getting stolen. And in this it is particularly apt.

Around the knob, which is as solid as sturdy love can select, there are gold fleur-de-lys fastened with gold nails. Silver fleur-de-lys are preferred by some. The flower is essential from its sentimental origin, but the choice of metals is arbitrary

Into one side of the wooden knob is cut an oval depression. It must be done by hand, with not a break upon sides or bottom. The least imperfection would ruin it.

Now, into this depression is set a miniature. This is of the girl the cane-owner loves best, his Fairy Princess. Her face constitutes the talisman, for her grace is all-sufficient. Atoning grace, one might say, for it atones for whatsoever lack there may be elsewhere! Redeeming grace, for it saves from many things!

The miniature must be a gift one from the young lady. When Habib started out with the mirror he knew that it was one that had been touched by Dorathil-goase. When the young man takes the miniature cane with him he must know that the miniature is a gift from the fairest of hands. Famous painters get up these cane miniatures. They place them with delicate touches upon porcelain and color the lips with the lovecarmine. Upon the forehead is the daylily and the throat shines with the moon pearl. That makes a blessed miniature. Amelia Kussner has painted these miniatures and the great Carolus Duran could tell a story of cane portraiture. Into the cane's sturdy head is now imbedded the fair face and over it is set a glass. Around the rim of the glass are small pearls and there is a gleam of gold in the setting. The whole is very valuable, but were it not costly it would be no talisman. In olden days a man beggared himself to buy a talisman. In this one, gold stands for truth, glass for purity, and pearls for tears. Each has its own mission.

The miniature cane, when completed, is a very beautiful thing. It is not too fine for use, for many of the jeunesse doree whom one hears a great deal about carry much more expensive walking-sticks, and this one is for every day service.

The talisman cane travels around with the man about town. In the street car you see it lifted to his lips. At the crossing you see him clutching it tightly. In a crowd he has it under his arm. Once having one, a man never parts from it. It is his personal talisman.

That is a question to debate, but the talisman cane has just come to light and is becoming very numerous. It made the ideal holiday gift and will figure as a birthday token during the year for those who did not get one at New Year's day.

There are small talismans like the portrait silk handkerchief. This has the face of a woman upon the corner. The linen is sensitized and the picture is photographed upon it by regular process. The singular thing is that it will wash and not fade nor distort. With a handkerchief of this kind there is also a match box, upon the front of which there is a face photographed. These are all fads of photography, but the cane is the principal one.

One of these canes, owned by a young man whose love for a talisman amounts to a superstition, is provided with a sliding door of silver. The door, when closed, covers the miniature. It slides over it like the sliding cover of a box. Upon the door is the young man's monogram.

Once seated, in street car or public place, where there is a long, dreary wait, the little door can be slid back and the fair face smiles out from its hiding place. With the miniature pressed to his lips the young man can draw inspiration from his talisman. This is a delightful phase of the talismanic cane. Now, knowing this about the walking-stick—that one article of man's out-door outfit of which he never seems to tire—women can make all allowances for the

"WITH THE MINIATURE TO HIS LIPS THE YOUNG MAN GETS INSPIRATION FROM HIS TALISMANIC CANE."

Miscellany.

BLUFFED THE CONDUCTOR.

Two Actors With a Single Wish, and One Railroad Ticket.

They were two comedians and they were stuck in Wilkesbarre, with Scranton ever so many miles away.

"Well, what are we going to do now?" said one.

"Blest if I know," said his companion. "But I do know that the walking is awful bad, and jumping coal trains no sort of work for two eminent comedians."

"Count the house," said Hanley.

They emptied their pockets and found that by squeezing a cent or two they could manage to buy one ticket to Scranton. They then conceived a plan for traveling at the rate of two on a ticket. When the conductor came through the cars two hands firmly clasping one pasteboard were held up to him.

"There's only one ticket here," said the conductor gruffly.

"That's mine," said one of them.

"That's mine," said his companion, with equal emphasis.

"See here," said the conductor, "you can't both ride on one ticket. I'll have to put one of you off."

"Make it me—that's easy money," cried both comedians in chorus. "Put me off if you dare."

"Well, you've got to get off at the next station," said the conductor vigorously—"one of you at least."

The next station passed and the next, but no conductor appeared to trouble the two men with but a single ticket. When Scranton was reached the couple sought out the conductor and told him if he would accompany them to the hotel they would make good the missing fare.

"That's all right," he said. "You got one on me that time. You see, we are under orders whenever there is a possibility of a suit to take the safe side."—New York World.

A Hopeful Circumstance.

"So Mr. Tivvins has married a ballet girl?" exclaimed young Mrs. Torkins.

"Yes," replied her husband.

"Well, I hope she'll make him a good wife."

"I hope so."

"There's one thing that ought to help to make them happy; if she dresses anything like the ballet girls I saw she won't mind the cold enough to have any excuse for bothering Mr. Tivvins about sealskin sacques."—Washington Star.

True to His Superstitions.

"I have knowed some people," said Weary Watkins, "that was so superstitious that they wouldn't begin a job of work on Friday."

"I wouldn't myself," commented Dismal Dawson. "Ner on Saturdny. Ner Sunday. Ner Monday. Ner Tuesday. Ner Wednesday. Ner Thursday."—Indianapolis Journal.

Two Kinds of Legal Property.

"White man mek all de laws toe suit hissef," said 'Rastus.

"Co'se," assented Moses.

"Jis' fo' 'zample: Man steal my dawg las' week an' I fine out dat dawg ain propputty. But chickens am propputty, an' doan' yo' fergit it!"—Indianapolis Journal.

A Natural Question.

Pat—"Faith, it's mesilf has sot four or folve times, and dommed if Oi kin get a natural fortygraph at all."

Mike—"Sure, mon dear, kin yez expict a natural fortygraph when yez only have wan eye?"

Our Serial Story.

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"The Clock Struck One"

By FERGUS HUME,

Author of "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab," "The Lone Inn," "The Expedition of Captain Flick," "The Mystery of Landy Court, etc.

CHAPTER III—TO EVERY MAN HIS OWN FEAR.

After a pause of astonishment at the inexplicable flight of her lover, Dora ran upstairs to the room of Mr. Edermont. It was imperative that she should learn the truth of this disturbance, and in the absence of Dr. Scott, her guardian was the proper person to explain the matter. Had Dora glanced back at Joad, who followed closely, she might have gathered from his malignant expression that he was likely also to afford an explanation; but in her anxiety she went directly to the door of Mr. Edermont's bed-room. It was wide open, and the occupier was still sobbing by the open window.

"What is the matter?" cried Dora, hurrying forward. "Why has Allen—"

Edermont lifted up a white face wet with tears, and flung out two thin hands with a low cry of terror. Then, with a sudden anxiety in his eyes, he staggered rather than walked across the room, and closed the door sharply. Joad had already entered, and, still hugging a book, stood looking grimly at the swaying figure of his patron. With his back to the door, Edermont interrogated his ward and his friend.

"Has he gone? Is the gate closed—is it locked and barred?"

"He has gone, and the gate is safe," said Joad, for Dora was too astonished by the oddity of these questions to reply.

Edermont wiped the sweat from his forehead, nodded weakly, and finally subsided into an armchair. Here he bowed his face in his hands, and Dora caught the drift of the words which he muttered in a low voice. They were those of his favorite prayer from the Litany.

"From battle, murder and sudden death, Good Lord deliver us," moaned the man; and then in some measure he recovered his serenity. Seized with a sudden anger at the abject terror he had displayed, at the shameful accusation he had leveled against her lover, Dora stepped forward and faced Mr. Edermont with an indignant look.

"Now that you feel better," she said coldly, "perhaps you will afford me an explanation."

Edermont looked at her in a dazed manner. He was a little man, scarcely five feet in height, and had a noble head which seemed out of place on so insignificant a body. With his long, white locks and streaming beard he was quite an imposing figure when seated; but when standing, the smallness of his body, of his hands and feet, detracted from the majesty of his patriarchal looks. Also, his eyes were timid and restless; the silvery beard, which swept his breast, hid a weak mouth; and stripped of his venerable disguise Mr. Edermont would no doubt have looked what he was—a puny, irresolute and insignificant animal. As it was, he imposed on every one—until they knew him better. Dora had long since fathomed the narrow selfishness of his nature; and she saw him for what he was, not as he appeared to the outside world. It is but fair to add that she always treated him with deference in public.

At the present moment there was no need to keep up appearances, and Dora spoke brusquely to the little man. In her heart she had as great a contempt for him as she had a disgust for Joad. They were both objectionable, she considered, and each had but one redeeming point—the noble head of Edermont, the noble voice of his friend. Beyond these the first was more of a rabbit than a man; the second rather a satyr than a human being. Never had Dora detested the pair more than she did at the present moment.

"I am waiting for your explanation, Mr. Edermont," she said again, as he did not reply.

"I have no explanation for you," retorted her guardian wearily; "go away Dora, and leave me in peace."

The girl took a seat, and folded her arms. "I don't leave this room until I know why Allen left the house," she said firmly.

"What has that to do with you?" cried Edermont in shrill anger; "our conversation was about private matters."

"It was about Lady Burville."

"What do you know of that woman?" he demanded, shrinking back.

"I know that the mere sight of her caused you to faint," said Dora slowly, "and I know also that she was acquainted with Allen's father."

"Lambert, you have betrayed me!" said Edermont in a tone of terror.

"You have betrayed yourself, Julian," was Joad's reply. "I can guess why Allen Scott left the house."

"I—I could not help myself. I was—oh, I was afraid," muttered Edermont, passing his hand over his eyes.

"You have cause to be afraid—now," retorted Joad; and with a look of contempt at the shrinking figure of his friend he turned and left the room. Dora waited until his heavy footsteps died away, then she turned again to Edermont.

"Why did Allen leave the house?" she asked with obstinate insistence.

"That is my business."

"And mine also. I have a right to know why you have driven away the man whom I am about to marry."

Endermont burst into unpleasant mirth. "That's all over and done with, my dear," he said, staring at her. "Allen Scott will never marry you now."

"What have you told him?" she gasped, turning pale.

"I have told him something which will keep him away from this house—something which will prevent him from ever seeing you again."

"What do you mean, Mr. Edermont?"

She had risen to her feet and was standing over him with flushed face and indignant eyes. To force his speech she gripped the shoulder of the man until he winced with pain.

"You have said something against me," she continued, giving him a slight shake.

"I have been saying nothing against you. I am truly sorry for you, Dora."

"Sorry for me, Mr. Edermont? Why?"

"Because of your parents," said her guardian, slowly.

Dora stepped back. Since she had been brought by Edermont to the Red House, a year-old babe, he had never mentioned the name of her parents. All questions she had put to him had been waived aside. That her father and mother were dead, that she inherited five hundred a year, and that Mr. Edermont was her guardian until she reached the age of twenty-one—these facts were known to her beyond them, nothing. Now it would seem that some mystery was connected with the dead, and that Mr. Edermont was about to divulge it.

"What did my parents do that you should be sorry for me?" she asked pointedly.

"I shall never tell you what they [illegible]

that they sinned, and that their sin will be visited on you."

"How dare you to speak to me like this!" cried Dora, clenching her hands; "what right have you to terrify me with vague hints? I demand an explanation!"

"You will never obtain one from me," said Edermont in a quavering voice; "and if you are wise you will seek one nowhere else."

"I shall ask Allen."

"He is bound by a promise to me, not to tell you."

"Then I shall question Lady Burville."

Edermont rose with a bound and gripped her arm with a strength of which she had not thought him capable. "Girl," he cried earnestly, "do not go near that woman. She is an evil woman—one who has brought harm in the past, and will bring harm in the future. When I saw her in church it was no wonder that I turned faint. She has hunted me down, and she brings trouble in her train. Leave me to fight my own battles, Dora, and come not into the fray. If you cross her path she will show you such mercy as she has shown me. I implore you to say nothing, to think nothing. If you disobey me, I cannot save you; you must be your own salvation."

Throughout this strange speech he kept his eyes fixed upon her face. When it was ended he dropped her arm and turned away. "Leave me, now," he said faintly; "I—I am not myself."

The poor creature seemed so exhausted that it would have been absolute cruelty to have questioned him further and, anxious as Dora was to do so, she was moved from sheer pity to spare him. Without a word she left the room closing the door after her, and went slowly downstairs to the hall. Here she paused and considered.

"I knew that some evil was coming," she thought, with a chill of fear, "and my premonition has come to pass. According to that coward up stairs, there is danger and evil on all sides. He has separated me from Allen; he warns me against Lady Burville; yet he refuses to enlighten my ignorance, and warns me against going to others. But I must know; I must learn what it is that threatens the future happiness of Allen and myself. I can't sit down with folded arms and await the bolt from the blue. I must know, I must consider, I must act."

Against two people Edermont had warned her; but he had omitted to specify a third. Out on the lawn, under the cedars, Dora saw the black figure of Joad. I would appear from his parting words to his patron that he knew what had been told to Allen. Dora was on the point of crossing to him, and wringing, if possible, the truth from his reluctant lips; but her instinctive repulsion to the man prevented her from taking him into her confidence. If she wanted help, she must rely on herself or upon Allen. He was her affianced lover, and she felt that she could trust him. But if his lips were sealed by the promise given to Edermont, why—

"But he will tell me—he must tell me," she said, with an angry stamp. "I shall go into Canterbury at once." She glanced at the old clock in the hall, which chimed half-past two. "I shall go at once," repeated Dora, and went for her bicycle.

At the gates she found Joad, with the key in his hand. He cast a sidelong look at her bicycle, and explained his presence on the spot.

"I quite forgot to lock the gate, Miss Dora," he said in his deep tones; it was fortunate for Dr. Scott that I did not, and unfortunate for you."

"Why was it unfortunate for me, Mr Joad?" she asked coldly.

"Because if Dr. Scott had not been able to get out he would have been forced to remain; and if he had remained," said Joad, with another glance at the machine, "he might have saved you a journey to Canterbury."

"How do you know that I am going to Canterbury?"

"I guessed it. You wish to obtain from Scott the explanation which Julian refuses. As I said, it was unlucky Scott found this gate unlocked else he might have made his explanation here."

"You are a shrewd observer, Mr. Joad," was Dora's reply; "and I admit that you are right. I am going to see Dr. Scott, as you say."

"It is a hot day, and a long journey. You will experience discomfort."

"Probably I shall," said Dora, with a significant look. "Suppose you save me the journey, Mr. Joad, and explain this mystery yourself?"

"To what mystery are you alluding, young lady?" asked Joad with childlike blandness.

"To the mystery of Allen's sudden departure. You know the reason for it. I heard you say so myself to Edermont."

"Mr. Edermont's secrets are not my secrets; and I do not betray my friends."

"You are wonderfully scrupulous," said Miss Carew scornfully; "well, I won't ask you to play the part of a traitor. Allen will tell me what I want to know."

"I am afraid Allen will do no such thing, Miss Dora."

"I have a right to know what bar there is to my marriage."

"I agree with you there," replied Joad, putting the key in the lock of the gate; "all the same, Dr Scott will keep his own counsel. But I'll tell you one thing, Miss Dora—Julian is right; you will never marry Allen Scott."

"Who will stop this marriage?" asked Dora indignantly.

"Scott himself. He will ask you to break the engagement."

Dora looked at Joad with ineffable contempt, and wheeled the bicycle out on the dusty road. "I will never believe that until I hear it from his own lips," she said; and the next moment she was spinning at full speed towards Canterbury.

Joad looked after her with a grim smile, and locked the gates with the greatest deliberation. Then he went up to the house, swinging the key on his finger and talking aloud.

"This," said Joad, chuckling, "is the beginning of the end."

CHAPTER IV.—MORE MYSTERIES

If Dora was disappointed at failing to obtain explanations at Chillum, she was still more so at Canterbury. She ran the five miles under 30 minutes, and made sure she would be able to meet Allen before he could escape her. There was a vague idea in her mind that, owing to what had been told him by Edermont—whatever it might be—he did not wish to submit himself to her questioning. This idea was confirmed by the discovery she made on reaching the tidy green-doored house near the cathedral. Dr. Scott was not at home.

"And to tell the truth, Miss," said Mrs. Tice, a large, ample, motherly person, who had been Allen's nurse and was now his housekeeper, "the doctor has gone to London."

"To London?" gasped Dora blankly, "and without letting me know?"

"Dear, dear; did he say nothing, miss? Well, to be sure! and Mr. Allen so considerate! You'll pardon me, miss, but I have been with him since he was a baby, and I should be sorry to think he had quarreled with [illegible] It's few as [illegible]

[illegible] Miss Dora [illegible]

[illegible] I take

rew, a trifle stiffly. "Dr. Scott saw my guardian, and then left the house without speaking to me. I have called to ask for an explanation."

"Well, miss, I'll—but, dear, dear, here I am keeping you on the doorstep. A fine rage Mr. Allen would be in if he knew that miss. Come in and rest, my dear lady, and I'll make you a cup of tea."

Dora accepted this hospitable offer with alacrity, not that she was anxious for rest or tea, but because it occurred to her that Mrs. Tice might throw some light on the darksome mysteries which were perplexing her brain. The old woman, as she had stated, had taken charge of Allen since he was a baby, so she, if any one, would know about this Lady Burville who had been acquainted with Scott senior. But before Dora asked any questions concerning this remote past she wanted first to learn the circumstances of Allen's hasty departure for London. When seated in Mrs. Tice's comfortable room, she spoke directly on the subject.

"Had Dr. Scott decided to go up to town this morning?"

"Why, no, miss," replied the housekeeper, poising a spoon over the caddy, "and that is just what puzzles me. Mr. Allen is not a young gentleman to make up his mind in a hurry like. But he came home about half an hour ago quite wild in his looks, and would not say what ailed him. Before I could turn round he had put a few things into a black bag, and went off on his bicycle."

"To the station?"

"No, miss; to Selling. He said he had a patient to see there and would catch the four twenty-six train from that place."

Dora glanced at her watch. It was now three o'clock, and if she chose she could ride the nine miles to Selling before the up train left the station. But this she determined not to do. If Allen insisted upon behaving so badly, she would do nothing to force him into an explanation. Sooner or later he would tell her his reasons for this strange conduct. But there was no doubt in her mind that his sudden departure was the result of his mysterious conversation with Mr. Edermont.

"When did Mr. Scott say he would return, Mrs. Tice?"

"To-morrow, miss; and then I have no doubt he will explain why he went off in such a hurry."

"He did not tell you, I suppose?"

"Not a word, miss," replied the housekeeper, pouring out the tea; "he'll be in a rare way when he finds out you have been here, and he not at home to make things pleasant for you. Your tea, miss."

"You will make them pleasant enough, Mrs Tice. What delicious tea and bread and butter. I feel quite hungry after my ride. By the way, Mrs. Tice," continued Dora, artfully preparing to take the housekeeper by surprise, "Allen told me that he had a new patient—Lady Burville."

Contrary to her expectation, Mrs. Tice did not appear to be astonished. From the composed expression of her face, from the friendly nod with which she received the news, Dora was convinced that she was absolutely unacquainted with the name. Failing in this attack, Dora attempted to gain the information she wanted, if it were to be gained, by approaching the subject from another quarter.

"I am so glad that the doctor is to prescribe for Lady Burville," she said softly; "she will be able to do Allen so much good in his profession. He only needs the chance, and with his talents he is sure to be successful."

"Mr. Allen is very clever indeed," said delighted Mrs. Tice, who could never hear her nursling praised sufficiently.

"And the father was clever also, I believe?" said Dora, unmasking her batteries.

This time Mrs. Tice changed color, and placed the cup she was holding carefully on the tray. Dora noticed that her hand trembled.

"The late Dr. Scott was eminent in his profession," she said in a low voice.

"What a pity he did not live, to help Allen on!" pursued Dora, still observant; "how long ago is it since he died, Mrs. Tice?"

"Some twenty years, miss."

"Really! When Allen was five years old; and you have had charge of him ever since?"

Mrs. Tice recovered a little of her self control. "I had charge of him before that, miss," she said genially; "his poor mother died when he was born, so I have had him in my care since he was in his cradle. Well, please God, I'll stay with him until I die—that is, miss, if you do not object to my continuing housekeeper after your marriage to my dear Mr. Allen?"

"You shall stay and look after us both," declared Dora impetuously, "we could not do without you."

"Your guardian, Mr. Edermenet, will miss you when you marry, my dear lady."

Dora's lip curled. "I do not think so," she said quietly. "Mr. Edermont is too much wrapped up in himself to trouble about me. You have never seen him, have you?" and on receiving a shake of the head Dora continued: "He is a little womanish man, with a fine head of silvery hair."

"Ah," said Mrs. Tice, a startled expression coming into her eyes.

"I think he has quarreled with Allen," pursued Dora, not noticing the change in the other's manner, "for he told him something which may prevent our marriage."

"What was it, my dear?" asked Mrs Tice in some perturbation.

"I don't know; Mr. Edermont won't tell me. And I asked you about this Lady Burville because I feel sure she has something to do with it."

"But, Miss Carew, I do not understand."

"Well, Mrs. Tice," cried Dora quickly, "Mr. Joad said Lady Burville knew my guardian and Allen's father, and—I'm sure I can't tell how—but it has something to do with our marriage being stopped and Allen's going to London."

By this time Mrs. Tice was perfectly livid, and trembling like a leaf. Out of the incoherencies of Dora's story she had picked an idea, and it was this which moved her so deeply. Dora looked at her in astonishment.

"What is the matter, Mrs. Tice? Are you ill?"

The housekeeper shook her head, then, rising with some difficulty, she went to a cupboard, and produced there from a book of portraits. Turning over the pages of this, she pointed out one to Dora.

"A little man with silvery hair," she said slowly—"is that your guardian, Miss Carew?"

Dora looked and saw the face—clean shaven—of a young man. Notwithstanding the absence of beard, she recognized it at once. It was Julian Edermont, with some twenty years off his life.

"Yes, that is Mr. Edermont," she said, astonished at the discovery.

"And you are his ward, his daughter?" questioned the housekeeper.

"No; I am his ward. Mr. Edermont has never been married."

Mrs. Tice looked thoroughly frightened. "You say Mr. Edermont had a conversation with Mr. Allen?"

"Yes; a conversation and a quarrel."

"Oh, great heavens! if he should have learned the truth!" muttered the old lady.

"If who should have learned the truth?" demanded Dora.

Mrs. Tice closed the book with a snap, and put it in the cupboard, shaking her head ominously. She kept her eyes turned away persistently from the face of the young girl. Whatever discovery she had made from displaying the photograph, it was evident she did not intend to communicate it to her companion.

"How did you come possessed of Mr. Edermont's photograph, when you said you didnot know him?" asked Dora suddenly.

"I did not know him until—five minutes ago. You had better ask me no more questions, Miss Carew."

"But can you not tell me from your knowledge of Allen's parents why Mr. Edermont has quarreled with him?"

"I cannot tell you anything I take him to be, I can. But I shall not tell you, Miss Dora."

"Why not?"

The housekeeper shuddered. "I dare not," she said in a trembling tone. "Oh, my dear, why did you come to-day? I know much, but I dare not speak."

"Is your knowledge so very terrible?"

"It is more terrible than you can guess."

"Does Mr. Edermont know as much as you do?"

"Mr.—Edermont," said the housekeeper, with a pause before the name, "knows more than I do."

"I do not see why I should be kept in the dark," said Dora petulantly. "All that concerns Allen concerns me."

"In that case," observed Mrs. Tice calmly, "I can only recommend you to wait until Mr. Allen returns. If he chooses to tell you, well and good; but for my part I prefer to keep silent about the past."

"But is that fair to me, Mrs. Tice?"

"Silence is more than fair to you in this case," said the old dame, looking steadily at the eager face of the young girl. "It is merciful."

"Merciful? That is a strange word to use."

"It is the only word that can be used," replied Mrs. Tice emphatically. "No, do not ask me any more, my dear young lady. The secret I hold is not my own to tell. Should Mr. Allen give me permission to reveal it, I shall do so; otherwise I prefer to be silent."

One would have thought that this speech was final; but Dora was too bent upon learning the truth of Allen's strange behavior to be satisfied. She urged, she cajoled, she threatened, she implored; but all to no purpose. Whatever it was that Mrs. Tice knew detrimental to the past of Mr. Edermont, she was determined to keep it to herself. Evidently there was nothing left but to wait until Allen returned. From experience Dora knew that she could wheedle anything out of her easy-going lover.

"Do you know anything about Lady Burville?" asked Dora, finding she could not persuade Mrs. Tice into confessing what she knew.

"I know nothing—not even the name," said the housekeeper. "Why do you ask?"

"Because Lady Burville has something to do with the quarrel between Mr. Edermont and Allen."

"I can safely say that I know nothing on that point, Miss Carew. Lady Burville is a complete stranger to me, and I should say, to Mr. Allen. I have never heard him speak of her."

"But Mr. Edermont knows her."

"Very probable, Mr. Edermont knows many people I am unacquainted with. You must remember, Miss Carew, that there is a vast difference between the position of a gentleman and that of a housekeeper."

"Then Lady Burville has nothing to do with Mr. Edermont's past?"

"So far as I know she has not," replied Mrs. Tice promptly. "I don't know anything, my dear young lady."

"Can you guess the cause of this quarrel?"

"Yes; I told you so before; but I cannot speak of it."

"Do you fancy Mr. Edermont told Allen the secret you speak of?"

Mrs. Tice made no immediate reply, but smoothed her silken apron with trembling hands. At length she said: "I do not know. I trust he did not. But if he did speak—"

"Yes, Mrs. Tice," said Dora eagerly, "if he did speak?"

The housekeeper drew a long breath. "If he did speak," she repeated, "you will never—never—never become the wife of Allen Scott."

TO BE CONTINUED.

CHECKED CAMEL'S HAIR.

A Pretty Gown When Trimmed With Wash Silk and Simple Lace.

When a girl is not quite grown it is always a difficult problem to know how to dress her. A child's dress is not suitable, and yet a gown for a grown woman looks awkward on her. So the thing is to make a girlish costume for her without its being childish.

For girls from 14 to 16 a suitable gown is of blue and white checked camel's hair, trimmed with blue wash silk and narrow lace. The skirt, which is five-gored, has three strips of braid down the front, one down the middle of the front width and one on either side.

FOR A SCHOOL GIRL.

They end in three loops, about 12 inches from the bottom of the skirt. The waist is of accordion plaited blue silk, with a row of lace on each plait. The belt is a wide girdle of the silk, shirred in the center in front.

The sleeves are of the camel's hair, with a deep cuff reaching to the elbow of the taffeta. Over the sleeve is a ruffle of the accordion plaited silk, finished with the lace like the waist. The stock collar is also of the taffeta. This makes a very dainty and becoming dress and can be made up in any light weight material.

Why He Sneered.

"I understand you were punished in school to-day, Thomas," said Mr. Bacon to his 12-year-old nephew.

"Yes, sir," promptly replied the juvenile.

"For what?"

"For telling the truth, sir."

"Your teacher said it was for some reflection you made upon her age."

"That's the way she took it, father. You see, she drew a picture of a basket of eggs on the blackboard, and I was all of the room I just wrote under them: 'The hen that made these eggs isn't any chicken.'"—Yonkers Statesman.

Didn't Need It.

Electrical Supply Agent—You ought to have a burglar-alarm system in your house, so that you would be instantly awakened if any intruder were to step inside one of the doors or windows.

Mr. Youngiove—My dear sir, we don't need anything of the sort. We are wanting our baby.—Cleveland Leader.

English in the Court Room.

"Who are those students with books under their arms?"

"They're taking up the law."

"And what's the old man in a gown back of that bench doing?"

"Oh, he's laying it down."—New York Press.

Sure of One Thing.

"Bobby says that you tried to borrow $50 of him this afternoon. Is he right?"

"Don't ask me. Ask him. I know that I'm not."—Detroit Free Press.

FOR THE WHEEL.

a jacket with rather a loose front and a collar of mink fur and a band down the front reaching to the bottom of the jacket.

The skirt is a short one, reaching a little below the knee. The bicycle boots of stout leather comes above the calf of the leg. Warm woolen stockings and tights are worn, as well as the bloomers made in the skirt.

The hat is a little brown chenille affair, with a black tip on one side. For the girl who scorches this is the proper thing, as there is very little to it to catch the wind.

BICYCLING SUIT.

A Brown Cheviot, Trimmed With Mink, is Very Comfortable.

The cold weather has brought quite a change in bicycle suits. From light blazer suits, with shirt waists and skirts, we have come to heavy fur-trimmed jackets and skirts.

A very comfortable costume for the wheel is of dark brown cheviot. It has

Forgiveness.

If I should pray to be forgiven, yet bear
The fires of unforgiveness smoldering low
How can I hope to know
A hearing for my prayer?—
To ask and yet withhold forgiveness—can I dare?
Shall I implore that God remit my debt,
And yet
Refuse to pardon or forget?
—Arthur L. Salmon in New York Tribune.

A Clever Shopper.

"Just to see that young fellow plunging through the solid crowd of shoppers! Who is the tall woman following so closely behind him?"

"That's Mrs. Skaggs, and the young man is her nephew. She hires him to go shopping with her. He's the half-back in the college foot ball team, Whew! See him break through the line!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Break on the Road.

First Wheelman—Did you say something?

[illegible]

IT WAS QUITE NATURAL.

When "Dead Shot Bill" rode into Hays City one day on his broncho, with his hat pulled down over his eyes and a hard look around his mouth, those who knew him said that he had come for blood. He hadn't, however. He had come to have an understanding with Dave Mills, who had lately been appointed city marshal. Bill sat on his horse in front of the Star saloon till Dave came along, and when they had saluted each other and shaken hands, he said:

"Dave, what about the city marshal business?"

"I'm goin' to keep order,' was the reply.

"No more holdin' up the town?"

"No more, Bill."

"You'll stop it?"

"I will."

"Say, Dave, you can't do it. You are a good man, but you jess can't do it. I'm comin' in to-morrow to capture the town."

"Don't try it on, Bill.'

"But I shall, Dave."

"Hev you got a few minits to spare?" asked Dave, as he gave a hitch to his guns.

"A hull hour. What's wanted?"

"Come over to the graveyard, Bill, and select your last restin' place. It's fillin' up purty fast, but thar' ar' a few choice spots left."

They went over the creek to the three-acre spot set aside for the dead, and as Bill got off his horse, Dave waved his hand, and said:

"Take your pick, and I'll put a Chinyman at work diggin' the grave."

Bill walked over the ground and finally selected a sunny spot on the south side of a knoll and said it would do. The city marshal called to a Chinaman who was passing and ordered him to get a shovel and dig a hole, and then he turned to Bill with:

"Wall, at what time to-morrow kin I expect you?'

"About noon, Dave."

"Sure to come?"

"Dead sure. I never disappoint an audience, you know."

"I'll be ready. Good-by, Bill."

"So long, Dave."

At 11:55 o'clock the next day "Dead Shot Bill" came into town with a whoop and a yell, his broncho on a dead run and a gun in either hand. At 12:02 he was lying dead in front of the Wild West saloon and at 12:45 the inquest had been concluded and he was occupying the grave he had selected. The city marshal had downed him, and the verdict of the jury was:

"We are kinder sorry fur the deceased, but it was all right, and accordin' to Hoyle."

CALLING COSTUME.

A Brown Brocaded Velvet, With Cape of Brown Velvet and Lace.

The winter season is begun in earnest and there are afternoon teas and receptions, not to mention dinners and theatre parties. Fortunately, for the woman who is not extremely wealthy, there need not be as many gowns for calling as for the evening affairs.

A calling gown, if possible, must be of handsome material. One of the latest importations was a gown of brown brocaded velvet, the figure being a golden brown on a ground of darker hue. The cape which went with it was of golden

FOR AFTERNOON CALLS.

brown velvet, on which was appliqued very handsome duchess lace, which formed a pointed border at the bottom of the cape. The yoke was of the lace put on in three vandyke points in the front.

The collar was a plaited Medicis collar of velvet and lace.

A Marlborough hat of dark brown velvet, trimmed with golden brown plumes, completed the costume. Of course this makes a very expensive costume, and beyond the reach of people with moderate means. Cloth can be substituted for the brocaded velvet, and the cape made of brown velveteen or velour, both of these materials being greatly in vogue this season.

Found a Meteor in His Field.

Frank Newell, a farmer, residing in the town of Hilton, Wis., while plowing in his field this fall, was greatly surprised to strike what he thought was a huge stone. Knowing his field to be clear of all such obstructions, it naturally excited his curiosity. After a short investigation the stone, which was of spherical shape, proved to be an aerolite or stony meteor. It was covered with small stony cones resembling icicles, and was [illegible]

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or of firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

Admission of Territories.

When did the territories of New Mexico, Oklahoma and Arizona apply for admission into our Union? How many population must a territory have before it can become a state?"—R. H. R., Bloomingdale, Pa.

They have been applying to each Congress for several years. There is no population fixed by law which a territory must have before being admitted. Congress has authority to admit or not, as it may see fit.

To Kill Trees.

"Is there any way to kill trees except cutting? Would like to deaden some on a line, but don't wish to ring them."—W. R. O., Bay City, Mich.

We know of none. If any reader can send a method, we will be glad to publish it.

Old Coins.

E. G. B., Quincy, Ill.: The coin of which you send a rubbing is a Prussian coin of the reign of Frederick William III, dated 1803. We do not know its name.

D. B. S., Argonia, Kan.: The one coin is a Saxon silver piece of 1812; the other is a Russian coin, but its name and value are unknown to us. We have no idea what they are worth. Communicate with some dealer in old coins.

The Cuban Resolution.

"What is the cause of the Cuban rebellion?"—E. O. C., Deer Creek, Ind.

The persistent misrule of Spain. Cuba has been ground down by heavy and inequitable taxation for years. It is governed directly by officials appointed by the Spanish government, and the people have no voice in the making of the laws or the levying of taxation. Like our fathers of the Revolution, the Cubans have finally risen in arms against tyranny and injustice.

An Inheritance Tax.

"What is an inheritance tax? Please explain it in the Question Bureau."—W. R. B., Ames, Iowa.

It is a tax levied on all property inherited by the death of a person. It is paid by the heir at the time he takes possession.

What Are Good Assets?

"In Weekly Blade of January 7, in your editorial on 'Those Bank Failures,' this occurs: 'Real estate is not a good asset when money is most needed.' Please tell us what is a good asset, and you will very much oblige a subscriber."—K. B., Loveland, Colo.

Anything is a good asset which can be quickly turned into cash, without depreciation or delay. Many a bank has failed because it had not the ready cash to meet its demand obligations, while at the same time it had ample means, but not in money. Bonds are perhaps the asset which can be most quickly turned into money, and that, too, without material loss. Real estate is all right as regards security, but it can not be turned into money quickly. Even if a cash purchaser can be found, he will take advantage of the necessity, and insist on buying at a sacrifice.

Fourth-Class Postoffices.

"To whom should a petition for a fourth-class postmastership be made? Should the petition be sent to a member of Congress or to the Postoffice department?"—H. C. P., Almira, Wash.

The petition should be addressed to the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, and should be sent to him.

A Banner Precinct.

"In a recent issue of The Blade in the Question Bureau, I notice a letter from a Tennessee precinct which gave nearly a unanimous vote for McKinley at the late election. Shelter Cove, in Humboldt county, this state, is the farthest west of any voting precinct in the United States. At the last election that precinct cast every vote for McKinley. Next!"—J. N. E., Rohnersville, Cal.

The precinct of Shelter Cove, Humboldt county, California, can just go Carter's furnace one better. That precinct cast three votes, all for McKinley. It is a cold day when old Humboldt gets left!"—J. W. J., Eureka, Cal.

Population of Two States.

"Please tell me the present population of the state of Washington; also of Oregon."—A. J. F., Northport, Wash.

There are no official figures since the census of 1890. By that Washington had 146,918 inhabitants, and Oregon 111,744.

The Word "Eve."

"Is the evening of the 24th of December called Christmas eve, or is Christmas eve on the evening of the 25th of December? Please explain why, if it is on the evening of the 24th."—D. A. F., Windsor, Pa.

The word "eve" is not the same as the word "evening." "Eve" means the time just before an event; as, "the eve of battle," meaning just before the battle begins. Hence, the word "eve" is used in the church calendar, to mean the evening before some saint's day, or church festival. Christmas eve is the evening before Christmas, or December 24. Christmas evening is the evening of December 25. The word "eve" is sometimes used in poetry as an abbreviation of evening, but this is a distinct from the meaning of "eve," as given above.

No Odd Year.

"In three years from the 1st of this January we write 1899. Then the next January following we write 1900, and yet we lack one year to make the 1900. Now, where and how is this odd year made up?"—G. W. C., Mulberry, Ind.

There is no odd year. It takes 100 years to make a century. From January 1, A. D. 1, to December 31, A. D. 100, was the first century. From January 1, 1801, to December 31, 1900, is the nineteenth century. The twentieth century begins January 1, 1901.

Miscellaneous.

E. W. S., Alva, Okla.: We are not certain. Better address a letter of inquiry to your delegate, Hon. T. F. Callahan, House of Representatives, Washington.

M. B., East Toledo, O.: The Episcopal and Roman Catholic churches, we believe, do not allow their ministers to perform the marriage ceremony for a divorced person, unless the divorce was granted for violation of the marriage vow, and the person to be married was the one sinned against.

R. L. K., Enoch, W. Va.: By incorporation under the Ohio laws a company obtains the right to hold property or purchase it, to sue and be sued, and in fact all the rights of an individual person.

S. M. P., Champaign, Ill.: Write to your Representative in Congress for it.

THE SAHARA.

One-Fifth of the Whole African Continent is Desert.

The desert area of Africa is estimated by Mr. Ravenstein at over 2,250,000 square miles, of which all but a small fraction is contained in the tract of land popularly known as the Sahara, says McClure's. Except for some school children who know better, and school teachers who are instrumental for their doing so, the misconception of the Sahara, which is widespread, would be practically universal. The average man pictures the Sahara as a vast sea of sand, for the most part below sea level, across which the camel speeds before the poison blast of the simoon from crisis to oasis. Schemes for flooding the Sahara have come before the public occasionally, and we have read accounts of the vast inland sea which might be formed, rivaling the Mediterancan in size, giving a Southern sea coast to steamers directly to the wealthy states of the Soudan.

The Sahara as known to the geographer corresponds badly with this conception; for, in fact, there is no risk of the "ship of the desert" ever being supplanted by the ships of the sea. Few parts are below sea level and they are small and scattered. In the interior the desert is a plain, high above sea level, covered with vast dunes of red sand in many parts; in others it is an elevated plateau with lofty mountain ranges of bare rocks, intersected by stony valleys. It is arid, save where a spring bubbles up and gives rise to a small oasis of grass and palm trees. The Sahara proper is unknown except for a few trade routes regularly traversed by Arabs and occasionally by adventurous Europeans. These utilize the oasis as resting places, stopping-stones, as it were, and keep up communication between the wealthy Mohammedan states round Lake Chad in the South and Tripoli, Tunis, Algiers or Morocco on the Mediterranean. Between the trade routes all is a blank or sand or barren rock.

Exploration is only possibly when water as well as food can be carried, and this condition has practically stopped all attempts at discovery for the present on account of the great expense and the purely scientific nature of the possible return. A railway running from the French possessions on the Mediterranean across the desert to Timbuktu, the scarcely known trade center near Niger, is talked of. Such a line may be constructed in the future, but the difficulties are enormous, much greater than those overcome by the Russians in the trans-Caspian line through the deserts of Central Asia.

THE GREAT THINKER

SOMETHING ABOUT HERBERT SPENCER'S LIFE WORK.

Toledo Author in The Unitarian—The Arena Company—A New Magazine Makes Its Appearance.

Herbert Spencer has long been looked upon as one of the greatest, and perhaps the very greatest philosopher of the day, and there is a feeling that when his work in this line is done there are none to succeed him. That he has done more to stimulate thought than most writers, is certain, and that his productions will for a long time to come continue to wield a powerful influence is also sure. Because this is true the following paragraph cut from a literary exchange will be sure to interest others as it did me, for though knowing that he had published the tenth volume of his great series, I had not before realized what the accomplishment really meant as a whole:

The news comes with a genuine shock of surprise and pleasure that Mr. Spencer has just crowned his career by the completion of one of the most stupendous undertakings that the brain of man ever conceived and executed. Thirty-six years ago Mr. Spencer set himself the task of attempting to demonstrate the unity of all knowledge, to show that the separate sciences all come under the same general laws, and that they can each be understood only when they are considered as forming integral parts of one great and harmonious whole. He published first his volume of First Principles. There have followed two volumes of biology, two of psychology, two of ethics, and two of sociology. Now there has appeared the tenth and last volume of this great series, being the third on the subject of sociology. It is indeed a marvelous achievement. In spite of frequent incapacity under the sufferings of chronic ill health, the indomitable spirit of the man has kept him at his task. The result compels wonder and admiration as the triumph of mind over body, quite as much as the intrinsic value of the work excites our appreciation. Mr. Spencer himself, in his preface to the last volume, confesses that he is surprised at his own audacity in undertaking so vast a work, and still more surprised at having completed it. Several sciences, or branches of science, have had their birth and development during the third of a century that Mr. Spencer has been engaged on his task. It was, in fact, as long ago as 1842 that he published his first work on a kindred subject. The remarkable discoveries and advancements made in the interval have served only to confirm the views and theories which he then advanced, and which he renews with fresh force and authority to-day.

In the December number of The Unitarian I note, though somewhat late, a fine article from the pen of Mrs. Esther C. Jennings, of Toledo, entitled A Word to the Beginner in Browning. It is somewhat more than a word, being really a thoughtful and helpful essay upon the study of the great poet. Among other things she says, referring to those who come to read him understandingly and lovingly—"they are the few who realized that a master of art and song should be studied much and long; that an original writer has new spiritual attitudes to be attained; and that the reading of the highest literature, like the interpretation of nature and human life, requires not only intellectual acumen, but that responsiveness of one mind to another sufficiently qualified to receive."

Mrs. Jennings gives very clearly the central ideas of Browning's philosophy of life, which "are iterated and reiterated." They are briefly, first, the value of the transcendent soul; second, the importance of the will in the discovery of truth; third, the magnetic personality as the "cruicial power;" and fourth, the value of experience.

She also pays tribute to the character of the man, and says that "no more beautiful chapter can be found in literary history than that which recites the love of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett—that eternal marriage which the severance of earthly ties did not annul, but strengthened with purer bonds of the spirit."

I think everybody will be glad to know that the placing of the affairs of the Arena Company in the hands of a receiver was merely a temporary arrangement pending business changes to be made. Mr. Flower, who did such splendid work upon the magazine through its earlier years, building it up to success, was finally compelled to succumb to the ill health against which he has struggled for the past two years, and resigned his postion as editor. The January number, one of the best, by the way, of any which has been issued for some time, was edited by Helen Gardener, the brilliant author, who will be in charge until the permanent arrangement hoped for, with one well fitted for the position, is completed. That it will not lose in interest in her hands all who know her and her work will be assured.

Meanwhile the company is to be recapitalized by experienced business men and placed in new hands, and upon a firm financial basis, while "the magazine will be, as intended from the first, an open court for the promulgation of all authoritative and important opinions."

A new magazine added to the many publications that challenge the interest of the reading public seems almost superfluous, and yet there is always room for one more, especially if it promises to keep near the top. This is the case with The Month, which made its first appearance with the New Year.

The editors, Joseph B. and Jeanette L. Gilder, both too well known to need introduction, intend, apparently, to make this magazine a vehicle for the expression of opinion concerning whatever in literature, art and life is attracting public attention. Its opening pages are to be occupied by the Critic's Lounger, and then come essays, poems and book reviews, and departments devoted to fine arts, music and the drama.

In the initial number this arrangement is well carried out. The pages are enlivened by portraits of distinguished people, the frontispiece being a picture of M. Felix Gras, the author of The Reds of the Midi.

Among the writers represented in this number are the following: Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Frank R. Stockton, Locke Richardson, Bliss Carman, Gerald Stanley Lee and Dr. Edward L. Rolfe. There are also 26 portraits, besides the frontispiece.

Those who are acquainted with the work of the editors of The Month will not question its success. It is, of course, published by The Critic Company.

Dr. Conan Doyle has written a sort of personal experience for the Strand Magazine, entitled Life on a Greenland Whaler. It is based upon his experiences of a season upon a whaler. The Bookman says that Dr. Doyle never pledges himself to a publisher for even a short story until what he has in hand is finished. He affirms that this course prevents any feeling of responsibility that might become a burden and therefore diminish the excellence of his work.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

A Corker.

McSwatters—Hear you have great snipe-shooting out near your place?

McSwitters—Yes. Why, I shot two yesterday that were as large as New

Merit

Is what gives Hood's Sarsaparilla its great popularity, increasing sales and wonderful cures. The combination, proportion and process in preparing Hood's Sarsaparilla are unknown to other medicines, and make it peculiar to itself. It acts positively upon the blood, and as the blood reaches every part of the human system, all the nerves, muscles, bones and tissues come under the influence of

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1.

Hood's Pills cure Liver Ills; easy to take, easy to operate. 25 cents.

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

A book which is sure to grow in interest as time moves on is one entitled Mystic Masonry or the Symbols of Freemasonry and the Greater Mysteries of Antiquity. Its author, Dr. J. D. Buck, of Cincinnati, writes with the earnestness born of knowledge of that which he is talking about, namely, the inner meaning of the symbols of the ancient order of Freemasonry, and the spirit of the order itself. In the table of contents may be noted the following titles which will give an idea of the treatment of the subject: Principles of Education and Ethics; The Genius of Freemasonry; The Secret Doctrine; The Sevenfold Nature of Man; The Sign of the Master; The Great Lodge, and An Outline of Symbolism. The volume is dedicated "to the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity; to all Its Heroes, Martyrs and Sages in the Past, and to Its Servants in the present." It is illustrated with 16 plates, and prettily bound in cloth. With an appropriate cover design. The Blade will have more to say of it later on.

The Robert Clarke company, of Cincinnati, O., are the publishers. Price, $1.50.

A second series of the papers by Miss Lilian Whiting, entitled "The World Beautiful," has recently been issued and received a warm welcome from the many readers of the first series and also from new friends. They are full of helpful thought as all of Miss Whiting's writings are, and touch upon the possibilities of living the life of the spirit while still in the world of material things. Her words are most earnest and convincing, showing that the author has the right key to the heart of nature and of man far deeper than the majority of people. The volume is tastefully bound and makes a pretty companion to the first series. Roberts Brothers, of Boston, are the publishers.

What Cheer? by W. Clark Russell, is a romance, the scene of which for the most part is laid in Deal, a small village lying on the eastern coast of England. Sailors and fishermen with their wives and sweethearts are the principal characters. Joyce Wilkes, the heroine, is a beautiful girl, with a strong spirit which no amount of urging or opposition could break. Her father is also a peculiar character who is very well drawn. R. F. Fenno & Co., 112 Fourth avenue, New York City, are the publishers.

A quaint looking book with some marks of modern methods in it is one entitled The Square of Sevens, by E. Irenaeus Stevenson. The volume is declared upon the title page to be An Authoritative System of Cartomancy, or in other words a way by which fortunes can be told by cards. A most interesting and characteristic editorial preface gives an amusing account of how this "old mystery" came into the hands of the writer for rehabilitation. He calls it a friendly literary resurrection, saying that there is no copy of the book in any of the great libraries of the world. One worn but perfect manuscript copy is to be found in a private library in the United States, and another in Australia. From which of these the present one is taken is not declared. Harper & Brothers, New York City, are the publishers.

The Ambassador of Christ, by Archbishop Gibbons, is a volume of some 400 pages, dedicated to the venerable prelates and clergy of the United States. The chief purpose of the work is, in the words of the author, "to demonstrate the dignity and responsibility of the Christian ministry." He has written with zealous earnestness strong words in various directions. The following headings of chapters will give the general drift of the volume: Excellence of the Christian Priesthood; The Marks of a Divine Vocation; Reverence for Teachers; Charity and Politeness; The Spirit of Poverty; Humility; Persevering Labor the Key to Knowledge; Study of the Scriptures; Study of the Fathers, and Study of Men and the Times. John Murphy & Co., 44 W. Baltimore street, Baltimore, are the publishers.

Two Health Seekers in Southern California, by Dr. William A. Edwards and Beatrice Harraden, the author of Ships That Pass in a Night, is a little book that will give some needed information regarding a part of the country much visited by invalids. It aims to tell the exact truth about the climate, etc., so that none may be deceived in expecting what they will not find. The volume ought to be welcome for the dependable information given. It is published by J. B. Lippencott Company, Philadelphia.

TIMELY SUGGESTIONS.

No gown is complete without a collarette of some kind. One never sees a plain collar these days except on tailor-made dresses.

For their home gowns Toledo maids and matrons have devised ever so many pretty things of this kind, made principally of lace and fur.

One of these has a high Medici collar

stock, finished at the back with a rosette of the satin. This is particularly pretty on a waist with a lace yoke.

Another collarette is a full gathered ruffle of lace, with a simple band of fur at the bottom, and is fastened with hooks at the back.

It is especially desirable to have pretty becoming things at the throat for the theatre, and to have one's hair becomingly arranged. Hats should never be kept on. Even an aigrette can obstruct the view of the person back of it. A few days since at a matinee a young girl had discreetly removed her hat, and remarked to a woman in front of her that her hat obstructed the view. The woman said she was sorry, but kept her hat on.

FOR THROAT DISEASES AND COUGHS use Brown's Bronchial Troches. Like all really good things, they are imitated. The genuine are sold only in boxes.

TIGER GRATITUDE.

Operator on a Diseased Paw Was First Hated and Then Loved.

The Pall Mall Gazette recalls a difficult operation which was successfully performed in the Zoological Gardens, Dublin, a few years ago. One of the finest tigers in the collection was threatened with ganerene in its paw, the claw having been distorted and grown into the foot. Rev. Samuel Houghton, M. D., Senior Fellow of Trinity college, Dublin, and a well-known personage in the Irish metropolis, undertook to perform the dangerous experiment of operating on the paw.

The mate of the tiger was first secured in a side den. A net was thrown over the tiger, and he was drawn forward to the door of the cage. Four stout keepers then held the feet of the struggling animal, while Professor Houghton cut away the diseased claw. The suffering beast furiously endeavored to get at him during the operation, but the rage of the tigress looking on through the bars of the side den was much more terrible. She roared and flung herself violently again and again against the barriers in her mad desire to go to the rescue of her mate.

When the tigress was admitted to the cage after the wound of her mate had been dressed and the net removed, she turned up the paw and examined it with touching solicitude, and then licked her mate as a cat licks its kitten to soothe him, purring softly the while. But perhaps the most extraordinary part of the affair was the sequel. A week later Professor Houghton was again at the Zoo, to see how his patient was going on. When the animal espied him he began to purr like a cat, allowed him to examine his paw, and seemed pleased that he should do so. Indeed, for years afterward, the tiger and tigress showed themselves most friendly and grateful to Professor Houghton.

My Treasures.

My treasures are not wealth of hoarded gold,
Or plaudits of the world that swell the skies;
But mine the vision of two wondrous eyes
Aglow with love, and two small hands to hold.

—Exchange.

Well Qualified.

Topeka women wear good enough clothes for Topeka to have a horse show.—Topeka Journal.

WOMEN AT THEATRE

CAN THEY GO UNATTENDED TO PLACES OF AMUSEMENT IN SAFETY?

Managers Say "Yes"—They Can Trot Around Where They Like if Well Behaved—Where the Line is Drawn.

"Why shouldn't she, if she wants to do it?"

The reply is that of a dramatic manager to the New York Herald's query concerning the attendance of women at night performances without male escort. Truly, there doesn't appear to be any valid reason why a woman may not do almost anything that decent men do, "if she wants to do it." But in this respect the old timer who still "goes about nights" must have noticed a remarkable change. It was not so many years ago either when the sight of a couple of women entering or leaving a theatre at night without masculine attendance attracted disagreeable attention, and was almost unknown in this city. The matinee was especially designed to afford women the opportunities supposed to be denied them by laws of society.

In London, Paris and other cities of the Old World the unattended woman after nightfall is still regarded as a woman of easy morals, and mostly treated as such. And good society on the continent deems a young woman worse than unattended if not in the care of a male relative or some elderly woman, especially after dark. The streets of London and Liverpool and other large English cities are of night given over exclusively to the worst feminine elements. No decent woman in England would think of going to the theatre, musical entertainment, opera or music halls at night without male escort, and they wouldn't be admitted if they did go.

Contrast this state of society with that which prevails in the "land of the free," just one moment. Watch the women crowd into the Broadway theatres on a souvenir night, for instance. On such occasions sixty per cent of the audiences are women, and fully half of these come and go without male attendants of any kind. Every night of the year at any theatre where good and decent plays are being produced there are swarms of women, from the exclusive box party of full dress to the front rows of the top gallery, without the sign of masculine protection. At the opera and at all musical entertainments and lectures of all sorts the unattended woman comes out in robust strength of intellectual, social and physical independence. This is more marked in Boston and other New England cities, where it has been going on for years, than it is in New York, where it is of comparatively recent growth. Many women are driven to the place of entertainment in their private carriages by their own servants, who call for them at the close of the performance. Others hire cabs; most of them come by the surface or "L" roads, or come and go on foot.

"As a matter of fact," said one Broadway manager, "the streets of New York are safer between nightfall and midnight for decent women who go about their business than the streets of any country town or small city in the land. They are running back and forth between this theatre and their homes every night, and I've never heard a complaint. As for excluding them from the theatre when they come unattended—nonsense! They are not only welcome, but they are better taken care of than they would be if they came with male escorts. The women are the great patrons of all amusements that are legitimate and elevating. If a play or opera doesn't suit the women the best thing is to take it off at once."

"I never hear of anybody molesting decent women in the streets at night," growled another theatrical man, "except the police. The women are safe from the general public."

"We don't admit unattended women here at night," said Mr. Connell, of Koster & Bial's Music Hall. "There are special matinees for women, if they must come without escort. You see, if ladies were coming here at night alone and would happen to feel insulted by men presuming on that fact the public would hold us responsible.

"At the same time," put in Mr. Bial himself, "if a couple of women whom I knew to be respectable presented themselves at the gate any night I should unhesitatingly admit them. The discrimination is for the protection of women in general."

"Women unattended by male escort are not wanted and are not admitted here at the night performances," said Mr. Arnold, of the Olympian. "The best are the matinees for them. Respectable women have no business about music halls unattended at night—the others we won't have. In the theatre we admit women without escorts if they are known to be respectable. You will see at once that there are reasons why women should not be admitted indiscriminately to a music hall where drinks are sold. Such a thing has never arisen within my knowledge, but unattended women of any sort would not be admitted if they went so far as to present themselves with tickets for that part of the house."

Some of the roof gardens were closed to unattended women last summer. The east side theatres are well patronized by this class, however, and streets that would scare the Broadway woman half to death swarm at night with her independent and more familiar sisterhood of the Bowery and Third and Second avenues. The typical tough of the east side rarely molests women—is, in fact, more often the chivalrous gallant and self-appointed protector of womanhood. A single woman may traverse neighborhoods in the slums in safety where a man would be sandbagged for his watch or slugged for beer money. It is about the fashionable music halls alone where respectable women are not considered safe from insult at night unattended.

"Do you ever have occasion to stop unattended women at the gate?" I asked the box office man at the swellest Broadway theatre.

"Very rarely," was the reply. "'Birds of a feather flock together,' you know. 'Tough' women avoid respectable crowds—and, in fact, care very little for high-class drama. I never knew of but one instance when the unattended woman suffered here—and she wouldn't have gotten in if she had been accompanied by a platoon of men. It was a respectable party, too; but too much dining, don't you know?"

"We can't demand a certificate when respectably dressed and well behaved women present tickets here," was the reply at another place. "They buy their tickets mostly in the day time, and no ticket seller can tell who is coming in or out of them at night. Besides the husband, brother or coachman might have brought the women and might come for them, as far as we know. All we expect is that they will act like respectable women while they are here."

"Now I think a woman who comes in here with her hat on wrong side up and can't see the gate," solwly remarked a ticket seller, as he tore off a couple of coupons, "is not a respectable woman, and ought not to be admitted to the theatre. But if the unattended men were half as decent as the unattended women there would never be cause for trouble or complaint anywhere."

"Any discrimination against women nowadays," said an old time manager, "is a discrimination against the good woman. The bad woman knows all the tricks, and has the nerve to play them. The good woman doesn't know them, and would be afraid to make use of the knowledge if she did. You remember the old-time persons advertising for escorts or offering services as escorts? We never see those now. Then came the hired messenger boys. By the hired boy in uniform the woman merely placarded herself as wanting a protection. Then the bureau of escorts and guides sprang up, to peter out with the incoming of the bicycle.

"The wheel has done much, in my opinion, to give women self-reliance. They find they can ride all over creation and come back safe and sound. They do it every day. You can see them coming in from all directions after dark. Many of them are not only unattended by men, but are absolutely alone, or by the side of some stranger."

Both Rattled.

She—Good night. You're so glad to have seen me!

He—No, indeed! The pleasure is yours.

Thos. Slater's offer on page 8 is a beacon of hope to all men.

TRACKING THE STORMS

The Workings of the United States Weather Bureau Explained.

There are 154 stations in the United States, advantageously situated, each in charge of a trained observer, says the Home Magazine. At these stations observations are made twice daily and telegraphed to the central office in Washington. At 8 o'clock a. m. and p. m., eastern time, which corresponds to 7 o'clock in Chicago, 6 o'clock in Denver, and 5 in San Francisco, each day in the year, this army of trained officials, scattered throughout the country from Maine to California, is engaged in reading the different instruments with which the offices are equipped.

The station officials must be experts in this line of work, for within 15 or 20 minutes from the time that the observations are begun the instruments must be read, the necessary mathematical deductions made and the results enciphered on blanks and filed in the local telegraph offices. Then, with the right of way, these messages are flashed over the wires to their destinations, each station contributing its own report and receiving in return reports from such other stations as it may need.

To large centers like Washington, Chicago, New York and other cities, all, or nearly all, of the reports are sent. As fast as the observations are received at the various stations using them, they are translated and entered on charts. Isobaric (lines of equal pressure) are then drawn to locate the areas of "high" and "low"—the simple terms used to indicate the anti-storm and storm centers respectively—and isothermal lines are traced through places having the same temperature.

The isobars are drawn for each tenth of an inch in pressure and the isotherms of each degree of temperature. Several charts, representing other meteorological conditions, are also prepared. When this work is completed, the forecaster has before him a synoptic chart representing the weather conditions that prevailed only one hour before all over the United States and parts of Canada, for the latter government maintains about twenty-five observation stations and exchanges reports with the United States. By long experience and empiric skill the forecaster is able to deduce from the charts forecasts and warnings that, on an average, will be verified eight times out of ten.

TO CLOTHE THE CAPITAL IN LIGHT

Novel Illuminating Scheme for Inauguration Night in Washington.

Elliott Wood, assistant architect of the capitol, has proposed to the committee having charge of Major McKinley's inauguration a novel scheme for illuminating the capitol on the night of March 4.

He suggests that searchlights of from 2,000 to 10,000 candle power be placed in the capitol grounds at a distance of about 500 feet from the building, with their brilliant rays directed on the structure. Four strong lights stationed at the four corners of the park, with an equal number of lights placed at intermediate points, would illuminate the great building in effulgent splendor.

Mr. Wood also suggests that a number of calcium lights be placed on the dome of the capitol at the base of the Goddess of Liberty, which would cave the dome the appearance of a brilliant star.

It is believed that under these lights the building, standing as it does on an eminence, would be visible in all parts of the city and for miles around. By the use of a simple screen before the lights a beautiful color effect could be produced.

Mr. Wood estimates that the entire expense of such an illumination would not exceed $1,500, and he declares that the building would be lighted more brilliantly than ever before. The capitol offers magnificent opportunities for illumination under almost any conditions, and its possibilities in this direction have never been overlooked when there was occasion for a display.—Chicago Times-Herald.

NEW PRECIOUS STONE.

Found in Mexico—The Name of Cyclops Given It.

Chicago papers report that Edward J. Smith, of that city, a diamond expert, has found a new and remarkably precious stone in Mexico. It is not yet known whether or not the stones will be found in sufficient quantity to place them on the market. About a year ago an opal miner in Mexico sent a handful of peculiar rough little stones to Mr. Smith for examination. In the rough some of them looked like little snail shells and some like tiny rosettes, varying in size from a small pea to a small hickory nut. Most of them approached more or less a half sphere in shape. The rounded part was generally of the appearance of clear quartz, while in the center of the flat side there was a prettily colored little nodule. The substance of the stone seemed to be laid in strata over this little colored kernel.

A number of the stones were polished at once, and it was found they made most beautiful settings for rings, scarf pins and other jewelry. The upper side was given a smooth polished surface, through which the imbedded nodule distinctly showed. In most cases the nodule was of a dusky red color. In some of the stones the eye-like center was clouded across the entire stone. The vast majority of the stones, however, bore such a remarkable resemblance to an eye that it gave rise to the name "Cyclops," with which name the stone has been christened.

Last summer Mr. Smith took the stone to Europe, and the experts there said that no stone like it had ever before been known. It was highly praised and at once classed as a gem fit to be set in any kind of jewelry. The stone approaches the opal in value, and will no doubt prove a popular stone if enough of them should ever be found to make them find a place in the market. This point is as yet entirely problematical. Because of the rarity of the Cyclops Mr. Smith does not yet care to make known the name of the miner who found the first ones or the location of the mine where they were first cracked out of the rocks by the searcher after opals.

The substance composing Cyclops is chalcedony in an entirely new arrangement, dissimilar to any form in which it has ever before been found.

Exposure to Disease

Does not necessarily mean the contraction of disease provided the system is in a vigorous condition, with the blood pure and all the organs in healthy action. When in such a condition no contagion is readily fastened, and the disease germs can find no lodgment. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best medicine to build up the system because it makes pure, rich blood, and pure blood is the basis of good health. In cold weather it is especially necessary to keep up the health tone because the body is subject to greater exposure and more liable to disease. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the safeguard of health.

Englishwoman is Honored.

A young woman has received the unusual honor of the freedom of a London guild. She is a daughter of Lord Amherst, of Hackney, and having written a "History of Gardening in England," has just been thus honored by the Worshipful Company of Gardeners.

What One Girl Doesn't Do.

She doesn't claim to know it all,
Though a woman new is she;
She doesn't talk in modern slang,
Nor mangle poetry;
She doesn't ride a speedy bike,
Nor wear the bloomers bold;
The reason why she doesn't is
She's only one year old.

His Only Wish.

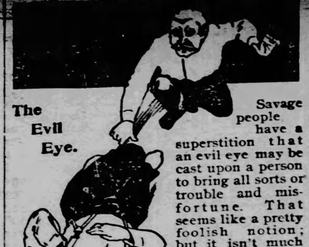
Parson Goodman—Is there anything you would like me to do before you die, Brother Jones?

Brother Jones—Yes, parson; I would like ter go an' sit in th' parlor fer one night before I die. I've got ten daughters, yer know, an' I hain't had a chance at that parlor, nights, fer over

Justifiable.

"Have you anything to say?" inquired the sheriff.

"Only one thing," said the condemned man, as he loosened the noose so that he could speak with more ease; "I want you to catch that man with the snap-shot camera and throw him out. I do not want to be disgraced by any amateur photographers."—Truth.



The Evil Eye.

Savage people have a superstition that an evil eye may be cast upon a person to bring all sorts or trouble and misfortune. That seems like a pretty foolish notion; but it isn't much worse than some of the notions which civilized people indulge in. One worn out superstition is the belief that if a man inherits weak lungs from his parents he is pretty sure to die of consumption. The actual fact is that if such a man will only take proper care of himself he will really be safer from consumption than a careless person who has no inherited weakness. Carelessness is the real evil eye. Carelessness will develop a tendency to consumption in any body.

The lungs are composed of very delicate, sensitive tissue, even in the healthiest person; that is why they yield so quickly to the attack of tainted blood. If the blood is allowed to get impure and impoverished, and bile-poisoned, the seeds of consumption will spring up in the best kind of a constitution. The real consumption-taint is in the blood.

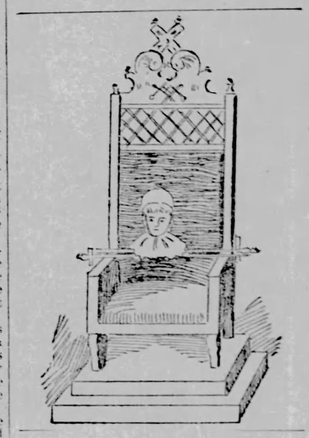
Hundreds of cases of so-called "hereditary" consumption have been completely and permanently rooted out of the system by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, simply because it gives the blood-making glands power to pour a fresh abundant supply of rich, red, healthy blood into the circulation. This drives out all poisonous and unhealthy germs. It stops the waste of tissue and the formation of morbid deposits; builds up fresh, normal, healthy lung tissue and solid, muscular strength.

In all the weakened debilitated conditions which are the forerunners of consumption, Dr. Pierce's Discovery is the most perfect nutritive and strength-builder. It is assimilated by the weakest stomachs.

THE BEHEADED PRINCESS.

An Explanation of This Really Wonderful Illusion.

On entering the room in which the illusion is exhibited, the spectators see a curtained recess, within which is a beautiful chair resting on a raised platform, with two swords lying across the arms of the chair and a woman's head resting on the swords, as shown in one of the pictures. The illusionist states that this is the head of an Egyptian princess who



was accused of treason and beheaded.

This gentleman relates a very interesting little story about the princess, how the head retained all of the faculty of the living after being separated from the body, and was placed on the throne chair in which she would have been taken her seat as ruler of her people if it had not been for the accusation of treason, and how he secured possession of the head.

Regardless of this story the spectator knows he is looking on nothing but a clever illusion. The chair is upholstered in red plush and is placed close to the curtain at the back of the recess. At the back of the chair is an opening just below the level of the tops of the chair-arms.

This opening is not seen from the front, as it is concealed by a mirror that is placed between the arms of the chair at an angle of 45 degrees. The ends of the mirror rest in folds of the fan-shape upholstering on the inside of the chair-arms. The lower edge of the mirror is resting on the bottom of the chair and the upper edge is concealed by laying one of the swords on it, as may be seen in the other illustration. At the proper angle the bottom of the chair is reflected in the mirror, leaving the impression that one is looking at the back. The folds in the upholstering of the inside of the arms effectually conceal the ends of the mirror. There is a hole in

the rear curtain directly opposite to the hole in the chair back, through which there passes a board supported at one end by resting on the seat of the chair and at the other end by a small box or by any convenient article.

The woman who is to impersonate the princess takes her position on this board with her chin just above the edge of the mirror, the second sword is placed at the back of her head and a wide lace collar that she wears is adjusted so as to rest nicely on the two swords. The second illustration shows the board in position passed through the curtain, with the woman lying on it, her head on the swords and the lace collar in position. The curtain in the rear must be close to the chair, but the side curtains are removed about five feet. The board is padded so as to make the woman as comfortable as possible when on the board.—Scientific American.

An Explained Ghost.

This is a true English ghost story of an unconventional kind. A young lady arrived late at night on a visit to a friend. She awoke in the darkness, to find a white figure at the foot of the bed. While she watched the bed clothes were suddenly whisked off and the apparition vanished. After an anxious, not to say chilly night, the visitor went down, with little appetite, to breakfast. At the table she was introduced to a gentleman, a very old friend of the family, who had, she learned, also been sleeping in the house. He complained of the cold. "I hope you will excuse me," he said to the hostess, "but I found it so cold during the night that, knowing the room next mine was unoccupied, I took the liberty of going in and carrying off the bed-clothes to supplement my own." The room, as it happened, was not unoccupied, but he never learned his mistake.—Argonaut.

Culpable.

It robs the world for a man of ability to live in idleness.—Ram's Horn.

Men! Do not despair. Read Thos. Slater's offer on page 8.

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Lump On Cow's Bag.

C. R., Wisconsin: The editor without examining the induration on your cow's udder, cannot say what the nature of it may be. It may have been the result of injury in some way or it may be from gorget. You are advised to take of iodine, ½ oz. and soap liniment 3 ozs. Rub this in with hand friction, generally twice a day. If this does not reduce the lump, you should call a veterinary surgeon, as the lump may require lancing. If you find that the lump is being reduced, apply liniment until the lump is gone. If you cannot get the soap liniment, which any druggist can supply, use unsalted lard.

Spring Wheat.

A. S., Indiana: Spring wheat requires a soil similar to winter wheat. It is partial to a well prepared clay or heavy loam, many light and all marly or calcasion soils will produce a good yield if properly prepared. Lime is an important aid. The ground should be well pulverized and fertile. The best crops are raised on land that has been plowed in the fall, and sown without additional plowing, taking care to harrow it well. When planted early, the wheat rarely suffers from the fly, as it attains a size and vigor beyond the reach of injury before the fly appears. In certain localities where the fly abounds, and the wheat has not been early sown, it has been found necessary to keep back the young plants till the disappearance of the fly. Grain sown about the first to the 10th of May will mature late in August and September, if the climate is all right. By sowing late the fly does not attack the plant. In sections where the fly is absent late sowing is better than early, so that spring wheat growers defer sowing until late—as late as May 1 to 20. On well pulverized soil, about five pecks are sown to the acre. Northwestern Indiana will produce good spring wheat. Winter wheat may be converted into spring wheat, all that is necessary is to allow the winter wheat to germinate slightly in the fall or winter, but kept from vegetation by a low temperature or freezing, until it can be sown in the spring. This is usually done by soaking and separating the seed and freezing it while in this state, and keeping it frozen until the season for spring sowing has arrived. Spring wheat may be purchased in any leading market of the country. There are several varieties. The Fife is a good kind.

Stringhalt in Horse.

A Reader, Indiana:—Veterinarians and pathalogists are in doubt as to the cause of stringhalt. It is termed chorea by some. It is frequently associated with nervous disposition. In very rare cases if taken early, the following will benefit: Iodine of iron, 1 drachm; pulverized nux vomica, 1 drachm; pulverized scutellaria; 1 oz. Mix and give

Talmage's Sermon.

SONG OF DRUNKARDS.

Rousing Call to Reformation of Habits of Dissipation.

Washington, Jan. 11.—This discourse of Dr. Talmage is from a most unusual standpoint, an arousing call to reformation from dissipated habits, and must do it from dissipated habits, and must do it from dissipated habits, and must do it

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1897.

Largest and Best Weekly Published, and Largest Circulation!

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers.
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor.

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wide-awake and thinking men. Its editorial page is the strongest and most thoughtful of any in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the live American people.

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CIRCULATION LAST WEEK, 121.000

TO SUBSCRIBERS WHOSE TIME EXPIRES IN JANUARY.

Every subscriber whose time for the Weekly Blade expires within this month should, by this time, have received a special postal card proposition for a renewal for one year on extraordinarily low terms.

If we have omitted any subscriber whose time expires in January, in sending out these cards, a request should be sent us by mail, as promptly as possible, for a duplicate, as the offer we make will be of great advantage to every one who wants the Weekly Blade. In fact, our announcement in this card is well worth reading, and no one whose time expires in January should fail to study it.

OUR BICYCLE OFFER.

The readers of The Blade are considerably interested in the bicycle offer we have made for the months of January and Febrrary. We receive several hundred applications per day for the circular of particulars; and now we are receiving numerous notices that our friends have gone to work in accordance with the offers therein made.

We again request every one who receives the Blade bicycle circular, to drop us a postal card notifying us of his acceptance of our proposition, if he concludes to work. The following is the announcement made last week:

As we have many times before remarked, it is a good thing to be a subscriber to The Blade. We are constantly giving our readers opportunities to obtain useful and necessary articles at a nominal price. Thus the money expended for a year's subscription is usually refunded many fold. Now we have a plan whereby any reader of The Blade may obtain of us, during the months of January and February, a first-class high grade bicycle, either at a nominal price of $25, or less down to $5, or even ABSOLUTELY FREE. It would require too much space to elaborate fully our plan here, and we have therefore prepared a detailed circular of information, which we will be pleased to mail to any applicant. This plan appeals especially to young people, but is equally available to any person who wants a good first-class wheel. Hundreds of our readers have in mind the purchase of a bicycle upon the opening of the coming spring. Why pay $85 to $100 for one, when our plan will save you that amount of money?

Drop us a postal card for our bicycle circular, and do it quickly, as our offer is for the months of January and February only. One hundred dollars saved is $200 earned. Address "The Blade, Toledo, Ohio."

COTTON ASKS PROTECTION.

The cotton states of the South have for years been a stronghold of free trade ideas. But there has come a change of view among the cotton planters. Time was when to talk of importing raw cotton into the United States was as silly as "to carry coals to Newcastle." But that time has gone by. The cotton raised in Egypt is imported into the United States and used by our manufacturers. Raised by ellah labor, among the cheapest in the world, it can be sold here at a good profit.

This Egyptian cotton comes into direct competition with the "extra" or long staple cotton of the South; and the competition has become so severe as to threaten to drive the Southern long staple out of use in our own mills. During the fiscal year ended June 30 last, American cotton mills used 43,000,000 pounds of Egyptian cotton. Hence it is not strange that representatives of the cotton-planters of Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee and Arkansas appeared before the Ways and Means committee, asking for a duty of 3 cents per pound on imported cotton.

Some of the Southern mossback politicians are horror-stricken at this move, but the politicians have always been a curse to the South, and it is a cheering sign that the men of affairs down there are beginning to look on the tariff question in the right light—as a business proposition, and not as a political tenet. In the early days of the republic, before the blighting slavery question arose, a duty was imposed on imported cotton, and John C. Calhoun was its champion. There is no reason why cotton planting shall not be properly protected, the same as wool-growing and other similar industries.

A CRISIS IN SPAIN.

The present Spanish ministry is in a parlous condition. It is helpless, and ruin is coming with rapid strides. The efforts to negotiate a new war loan have failed, and within a very short time—probably not to exceed two months—the Spanish treasury will be bankrupt. Yet the feeling is such in Spain that no ministry dare attempt to relinquish Cuba, or to propose anything but a prosecution of the war to suppress the revolution.

There is no escape from the situation save in the resignation of the present ministry; and such would be interpreted by the world to mean that it is impossible to enforce the present Cuban policy; that the war is a failure, and that some other solution of the situation in Cuba must be sought.

Weyler has accomplished virtually nothing. He has murdered Cubans in plenty, but he has not broken the spirit of the revolution. He has not enlarged the area which still acknowledges Spanish rule. A new ministry would at once recall him, and appoint a captain general of another type.

Then we might reasonably expect to have an appeal made to the United States for its intervention on the lines which appear to have been proposed by this government some weeks ago, and rejected by President Canovas. And then the Cuban question might be settled in a way agreeable to all concerned, unless the Cubans themselves should reject any terms except independence.

The tariff hearings are causing woe in the free trade household.

MR. BRYAN AGAIN.

Mr. William J. Bryan's address before the Silver Democrats at Chicago was a distinct disappointment to his hearers. As he had ample time for preparation, they confidently anticipated an effort that would be comparable to the famed "cross of gold" speech before the Chicago convention. But it was not forthcoming. Mr. Bryan did not rise above the dull commonplaces of his campaign addresses, nor did he present the plea for the silver fetish in any new or different light.

The address was keyed in a carping, fault-finding note, and is chiefly remarkable for a warped and one-sided manner of considering the points brought up. It is not worth the space to follow his effort in detail, and show it is in extenso. One instance is sufficient—his discussion of the retirement of the greenbacks. Mr. Bryan said:

The national bank is seeking to force a retirement of the greenbacks and then monopolize the issue of paper money. The Republicans, during the campaign just closed, avoided this subject, and refused to declare themselves either for or against the retirement of the greenbacks. But when they come to apply their ideas to legislation, they must disclose their views.

A statement issued by the treasury department near the close of December showed an "available cash balance, including gold reserve," of more than $225,000,000. Of this sum about $50,000,000 were in greenbacks, and about $36,000,000 in treasury notes. This money is either good or bad. If it is good, it ought to be in circulation among the people instead of locked up in the vaults at Washington. To keep a balance of $225,000,000 in the treasury when money is needed among the people is inexcusable. The only way to get this money out among the people is, first, to have the taxes less than the expenditures, in which case the amount of the deficit being saved to the people in taxes, and second, to loan it through banks or other agencies.

Now, what is the argument for the retention of the greenbacks? The only one is that they are assumed to save the government the interest on $346,000,000. The recent report of the comptroller of the currency takes up one phase of this question. It shows that, had the government retired all the greenbacks in 1879, at the time of the resumption of specie payments, the cost up to the present year, including principal and interest, would have been $742,000,000. But it was not done, and the cost and liability of maintaining the redemption of these notes has been, in principal and interest, $1,100,000,000. Hence there would have been a saving of over $300,000,000 had they been retired and canceled in 1879.

The bond issues under the Cleveland administration, to maintain the gold reserve, put the subject in a still stronger light. Had it not been for the greenbacks, there would have been no gold reserve, and consequently no issues of bonds to maintain it. The total of these bond issues is $262,000,000, on which we pay 4 per cent. interest.

It is necessary to maintain a gold reserve in order to maintain the greenbacks at par. That reserve earns no interest. It lies in the vaults idle and useless except to maintain confidence in our greenbacks. If it could be loaned or otherwise employed to earn interest it would produce at least 5 per cent. per annum. What we lose by its failure to earn we practically pay out.

Hence it is seen that we have outstanding $262,000,000 in gold bonds issued on account of our greenbacks and $100,000,000 or more of gold lying inert in the treasury, or a total of $362,000,000 interest-bearing or interest-losing obligations, while we maintain in circulation only $346,000,000 in greenbacks. In other words, we are paying or losing interest on $18,000,000 in bonds or gold, which is the excess over our outstanding greenbacks, for which we receive no return in any shape.

Here is a condition, not a theory, to which Mr. Bryan should turn his attention. Mere denunciation counts for little with sensible men unless the facts justify it. And there is absolutely no fact which supports the contention of Mr. Bryan that the greenbacks should be continued in circulation.

The second paragraph of the above extract is a fair sample of Bryan's demagogy. His howl is really because there is a balance of about $86,000,000 in the treasury. He wants it "out among the people," and mentions two ways of doing this. The first is operative now. The receipts are less than the expenditures. That $86,000,000 is the remainder in currency of the proceeds of the bond sales, which were made necessary in order to maintain the greenbacks at par. The second—to loan the money—is not necessary. The government could not and should not loan it without good security. Any man who can give good security can borrow all the money he wants in any financial center of the country. The banks are full of idle money, waiting a safe and secure investment.

Mr. Bryan's error is simply one of ignorance. He assumes that all money must be all the time in circulation. This is not true, from the very nature of things. The volume of money that is needed at one season of the year may be, and is, much in excess of that needed at another season. The unused surplus lies in bank when not needed. Brisk circulation depends upon the volume of trade, and this in turn upon other conditions, entirely distinct from the volume of money in the country. Mr. Bryan should devote some of his leisure to a study of the primary facts of finance, of which he is one of the most ignorant of men.

AMERICA LEADS ....

Few persons are aware of the great lead the United States has in the miles of electric railway operated. It not only is far in advance of all other countries, but according to a table recently prepared has more miles of track than all the other countries in the world.

In the United States there are 12,133 miles of road with a total of 34,971 cars. Canada comes second with 560 miles and 1,747 cars. The other countries line up as follows:

	Miles.	Horse Power.	Cars.
France	82	4,400	225
England	59	4,243	143
Austria-Hungary	44	1,949	157
Switzerland	29	1,559	86
Italy	25	1,800	84
Spain	18	600	26
Belgium	16	1,120	48
Ireland	8	440	25
Servia	6½	200	11
Russia	6½	540	32
Norway and Sweden	5	225	15
Bosnia	4	75	6
Roumania	4	140	15
Holland	2	320	14
Portugal	2	110	2

The electric road is an American institution, and even our own people are but awakening to the possibilities along this line. The countries of Europe are far in the rear, and are too easy-going to ever be able to catch up with American enterprise.

The literature of the Tennessee centennial and international exposition, to open May 1, 1897, has begun to circulate. This exposition will be worthy of the state and the nation. The buildings have been planned with good taste, and the fair grounds are ample. Among the buildings which have been planned is a splendid reproduction of the Parthenon, which is located upon a commanding eminence. States and cities are already making dates and claiming space.

Of course Fairbanks will knock the Senatorial plum in Indiana. He was born in Ohio and

OUR CIRCULATION INCREASING.

The amount of money in circulation in the United States has been steadily increasing of late. During December the increase was $3,778,654, while for the four previous months the increase averaged $32,885,401 every month. In December the amount of gold in circulation increased almost a million dollars, while the legal tenders—Treasury notes—showed an addition of $2,545,575 to their volume.

It is to be noted that the term "in circulation" means money outside of the Treasury. Whatever the latter may contain is not deemed to be in circulation. The following table shows a comparison of the amounts of diffrent kinds of money in circulation on the first day of the present year with those for one year previous:

	Jan. 1, 1897.	Jan. 1, 1896.
Gold coin and gold certifs..	$ 555,630,668	$ 534,664,988
U. S. notes and certificates..	311,697,758	262,460,873
Treasury notes	84,171,221	115,726,760
Silver dollars..	58,581,819	59,205,927
Silver certifs..	356,655,800	336,076,648
National bank notes	221,348,148	236,653,836
Subsidiary silver	62,101,936	64,417,685
Totals	$1,650,223,400	$1,579,206,724

This shows an increase of $71,016,676 in the money in circulation within the year. Of this increase, $20,965,682 was in gold, $49,226,885 in greenbacks, $14,730,312 in national bank notes. Notwithstanding the many millions of silver dollars coined during the year, the amount of them in circulation shows a decrease of $624,108. This is because the people do not care to handle the coins themselves. They prefer paper. Hence the increased number of silver dollars are represented by the increase in the volume of silver certificates, the coins themselves being stored in the Treasury vaults.

The following table shows the increase or decrease of the total amount of money in circulation by months—the figures referring to the last day of each:

MONTHLY VARIATIONS.

	Increase.	Decrease.
January	$10,513,883	.....
February	.....	$60,978,559
March	.....	112,594
April	11,377,619	.....
May	.....	18,422,795
June	.....	11,819,083
July	5,177,942	.....
August	24,206,492	.....
September	44,132,655	.....
October	44,753,325	.....
November	19,398,132	.....
December	3,778,654	.....
Year 1896	$71,016,676	.....

WHEAT PER CAPITA.

How many bushels of wheat do we each of us eat per year?

The rise in the price of wheat last fall, because of the short crop abroad, has set the statisticians to figuring anew on the amount of wheat consumed per capita in the United States annually. This question is of interest in determining the amount available for export.

The figure of home consumption generally used in past years has been 4.67 bushels per year for each man, woman and child. But there has been shown a discrepancy in recent years between the quantity of wheat actually on hand and what it would have been if this figure and the estimate of crop production were correct; and this has led to another attempt to fix the per capita.

The later calculation shows that, taking 43½ pounds of flour as the average product from a bushel of wheat, the average annual consumption per capita is about 4.77 bushels of wheat. This for a population of 70,000,000 would give an aggregate annual food consumption of 334,000,000 bushels of wheat, or about two-thirds of last year's wheat production. To this estimated consumption, however, there must be added the quantity used for seed, which varies with the acreage sown, the quantity used for the feeding of live stock and poultry, which is on the increase, and the quantity used in the manufacture of paste. This would give as the unit of consumption about 5.7 bushels.

Using this estimate and applying it to the present conditions, an Eastern newspaper figures out the amount of wheat we have for export of the present crop as follows:

It is safe to say that the wheat crop of 1896 will approximate 500,000,000 bushels. The crop of 1895 was 460,000,000 bushels, that of 1893 was 515,000,000 bushels, and that for the great year of production, 1892, was 611,780,000 bushels. With 500,000,000 bushels from this year's production, and not less than 100,000,000 bushels in farmers' hands and visible supply, we have a total supply of about 600,000,000 bushels. Counting 50,000,000 bushels for increased domestic use, we shall have from 50,000,000 to 90,000,000 bushels for export purposes, still leaving in the hands of the farmers about 90,000,000 bushels as a contingent reserve.

NEW YORK GRAIN EXPORTS.

It is a matter of much interest to Toledo and all of the other lake grain shipping ports that the railroads centering in New York have at last realized the error of their ways in imposing excessive terminal charges on grain for ocean shipment.

The effect of these charges has been to divert this grain trade to Southern ports. Baltimore, Newport News, Mobile and New Orleans have largely increased their receipts of grain by rail for shipment abroad within the past two years, while the trade of New York has lost correspondingly.

Of course the Southern railroads were quick to see their opportunity. They reduced grain rates, and gave every facility at their command for the promotion of the export grain trade at the ports reached by their lines.

The New York roads have apparently seen their error, and have determined to rectify it. A large ocean steamship is now taking on a cargo of 100,000 bushels of corn for Ireland at New York, and it is said the corn came from the West on a through bill of lading, in which the terminal charges were reduced to a proper point. This is the first large ocean vessel which has loaded at a railroad elevator for a number of years, though smaller vessels are constantly doing so.

THE 1896 ASH HEAP.

The total fire losses last year in the United States and Canada foot up a great total of $115,655,500. The New York Journal of Commerce, in giving these figures, feels moved to say that "the reduction of over fourteen millions in the fire loss accunts for 1896, as compared with 1895, has been very decidedly felt by the fire underwriters. They had in the year just closed a happy combination of high rates and light losses, and their gains have been very handsome."

But while this is encouraging, look at the other side of the picture. Think of $115,655,100 swept out of existence! It represents that much of the country's wealth which has been absolutely and utterly destroyed. Had the Treasury lost that sum, how the country would have rung with the heated denunciations of the politicians! Some of these gentry who are at sea for an issue should take up the subject of this loss, and fire the popular heart on the waste of the nation's material resources which they involve.

The results of the last French census, just published, show a continued decrease in the birth rate. The French view this state of things with alarm, for if it continues France will soon be far below other European nations in fighting

THE NEW FINANCIAL POLICY.

Mr. E. V. Smalley, the well-known newspaper correspondent, has paid a visit to Major McKinley at Canton, and thinks he understands what the financial policy of the new administration is to be. These views, Mr. Smalley says, will be communicated to Congress by message, not urged on that body by pressure from the White House, after the method employed by Mr. Cleveland.

Mr. Smalley frankly declares he does not present the points given below with any assumption of authority to act as the mouthpiece of Major McKinley, but "merely as a condensed statement of the views freely expressed by the President-elect." The points of this policy may be formally stated as follows:

1. An immediate revision of the tariff on moderate protection lines. No extremely high duties that might foster trusts or defeat the purpose of obtaining adequate revenue to pay the expenses of the government.
2. The restoration of the reciprocity treaties of the Harrison administration.
3. The maintenance of all kinds of money at a parity with gold.
4. Efforts toward international bimetallism in fulfillment of the pledge of the St. Louis platform.
5. Gradual retirement of the greenbacks as soon as the government has a surplus of revenue to apply to this purpose, and some other form of currency, bank or metallic, can be substituted for them. No new issue of bonds will be favored for the purpose of taking up the greenbacks. Possibly some plan may be suggested for a virtual retirement of a considerable part of the greenbacks and treasury notes by their use as a part of the bank reserve; this, with a view of strengthening the gold basis of the currency.
6. An enlargement of the national banking system to enable independent banks or branches of city banks to be carried on in small towns. This might lower the interest rate in the country districts, and tend to lessen the present centripetal tendency of money toward the large cities.
7. Economy in government expenditures to correspond with the economies enforced in all other lines of business by the condition of the times.

We do not know, of course, how much weight is to be given to this synopsis of views; but there is nothing in it which ought to call for criticism from any man who cast his vote for McKinley. Every point is good, and through the series there runs a vein of careful conservatism which will meet the approbation of every one.

STANDING BY KANSAS.

Editor White, of the Emporia Gazette, won fame by a single article in the late campaign. It was entitled, "What's the Matter With Kansas?" and it exposed the Populistic fallacies over which so many Kansas people run mad in such a pitiless vein of sarcasm that it brought himself and his paper at once into prominence.

Ever since that, the Popocrats and Populists of the state have been taking a whack at Mr. White. He has been very quiet under this; but evidently he has been waiting for a good chance to get back at them. The opportunity has now come, and here is the way Mr. White replies:

The Populists are raising a great to do because sane men see harm for Kansas in the election of a Populist state ticket. The Populists say the newspapers are slandering Kansas.

Four years ago Mr. Senator Peffer, Populist, of Kansas, stood up in the United States Senate, and said:

"If Kansas were put on the auction block and sold at sheriff's sale it would not bring enough to pay her debts."

That was standing up for Kansas, wasn't it? That was a sweet name to give a state.

About the same time Jerry Simpson stood up in Congress and said:

"The men in my district are selling their honor, the women their virtue, and children are begging for bread."

How was that for standing up for Kansas? Did any Republican editor ever blast the state like that?

When ex-Gov. Lewelling was governor he made a speech in which he said:

"Of very ten women seeking employment, only one finds it, and the other nine seek relief with her whose ways lay hard on hell."

That's good; stand up and talk about it! Had enough to be of a state that would indorse such a governor as that.

When Lewelling was governor, Mrs. Lease said:

"Never in the history of the state has crime, lust and boodle stood forth so boldly as now under the present administration."

Oh, they are stand-uppers from Uppersville. They can kick because the Republican papers deplore the return of that state-blasting gang to power.

Oh, Populism, what a flood of slippy lassitude surges over us at the mention of thy name!

Out of the mouths of Populists has he convicted the gang. Mr. White is an honor to Kansas. When the majority of the voters return to their senses, they should see to it that he is properly rewarded. He would make a splendid successor in the Senate to Peffer, or whoever may succeed Peffer.

FAILURES FOR 1896.

According to Bradstreet's, there were 15,112 business failures in the United States in 1896, "an increase of 16 per cent over 1895, when the total increased 2 per cent compared with 1894, in which year failures fell off 18 per cent from 1893, when the total was 15,560, the largest on record." Dun & Co. put the number of failures at 14,890, against 13,197 last year, "with liabilities of about $225,000,000, against $173,196,000 last year, an increase in number of about 12 per cent, and in liabilities of 29 per cent."

A period of prolonged depression always works that way. After the first crash, in which the weak business concerns go to the wall at once, there is a decline in the number of failures, followed, as time goes on, by an increase. The latter is due to the fact that firms have to yield finally to the pressure. If a revival had speedily followed the crash of 1893, they would have recuperated, but the long-extended depression finally compelled them to yield to the inevitable.

PENROSE ELECTED SENATOR.

The bitter contest in Pennsylvania over the United States Senatorship was decided last night by the Republican caucus of the legislature selecting Boies Penrose to succeed J. Donald Cameron. The fight was between Penrose and Hon. John Wanamaker, with Senator Quay commanding the Penrose forces. This leaves Mr. Quay at the head of his party in his state.

Mr. Penrose is a young man, only 36 years old. He has served in both branches of the state legislature, being at this time a member of the Senate. The present contest began two years ago, when Penrose was turned down for mayor of Philadelphia. He is a man of ability and a ready student of politics under Quay.

THE FIRST LINEMAN.

A dispatch from Piqua, Ohio, says that James Kirk, who strung the first telegraph line in the world—the experimental line built from Baltimore to Washington in 1844—has been stricken with paralysis.

Think of it! Only 52 years ago since telegraphy began! Prof. Morse, after many rebuffs, obtained a grudging appropriation from Congress to build that line, and the first news transmitted was the nomination of James K. Polk for the Presidency by the Democratic national convention, held in Baltimore. Now the earth is belted with telegraphic lines, and communication between any two points of the civilized world is a matter of minutes, rather than days and weeks, as it was a half-century ago.

The draft of the Pacific cable commission has been signed by the British, Canadian and Australian governments. That cable should be built by this country, and be kept under American control.

Porto Rico is not satisfied with the reforms granted by Spain with such a flourish. The most these can be said to

OUR EXPORT TRADE.

American exports are increasing. Not only is this true of grain and other agricultural products, for which the demand increases or decreases with the condition and yield of the crops of other continents, but it is true of manufactured products.

The increase is most marked in heavy machinery, including locomotives and other engines, and in iron and steel in the form of rods, billets and rails.

This is a cheering condition of things. A steady increase in the volume of iron exports will be of the greatest value in promoting national prosperity. It is an earnest of the fulfillment of the prediction made years ago that the United States, with its enormous resources, is destined to divide the trade of the world with Great Britain. The Iron Age, in a recent issue, says:

One of the most important developments of the times is the steady increase in the export trade. There are now very few articles of American manufacture which have not obtained a footing in all civilized countries, and in some cases in Philadelphia nearly one-half the product is taken for export. All the leading machinery and tool manufacturers have had orders of more or less importance, while the trade in hardware specialties is assuming very large proportions, and more satisfactory still is the fact that the goods are sold at a profit and not shipped merely for unloading purposes.

American cars and locomotives appear to have a recognized position in foreign countries. Nearly one-half of the year's output at the Baldwin Locomotive Works was for foreign account while street cars and electrical equipments are being shipped regularly. Egypt and South Africa having been important buyers during the year now closing. Even the export trade in pig iron is believed to be established on a permanent basis. The iron has proved to be of suitable quality, and at to-day's prices in Manchester, which is the leading market for American iron, the net at furnaces appears to be equal if not a little better than American markets will afford. Sales were made during the current month in Manchester at 47s to 48s per ton, and allowing for freight and other charges the net on furnace banks would be about $8 per ton.

The export trade in rails may or may not be permanent, although about 50,000 tons have been taken during the year, chiefly by Japan and China. The rail trade is so hedged around, however, that it is impossible to get the data necessary for any very complete statement. The fact that the prices in Europe are equivalent to about $23, f. o. b., ought to give our mills ample opportunity for securing business. With Bessemer iron at present prices the mills ought to have a good margin on rails, even at a price to compete successfully with foreign makers. One reason for expecting permanency in our foreign iron trade is the fact that the increasing scarcity of ores and fuel in Europe is gradually developing at higher cost, while the conditions on this side are exactly the opposite.

Taking everything into account, therefore, it may be assumed that the prospects for 1897 are unusually favorable. The long period of enforced economy must have pretty nearly run its course, and as the demand and prices for our cereals have been such a phenomenal, the country is in a much better condition to make expenditures than ever before. It may take some time to realize some of these advantages, but the ultimate outcome is almost as sure as that night follows day.

The steady development of our great industries for thirty years under the protective system has at last brought them up to the point where they find it possible to compete in the world's markets. To return fully to that system, and let our industries proceed untrammeled along the path of progress, means that the world's primacy in manufacturing will eventually belong to the United States.

NEW MILEAGE LAST YEAR.

The Railway Age's compilation of the new railway mileage built in 1896 foots up a total of but 1,800 miles, at a cost between 25 and 30 million dollars. This is three miles less than the total for 1895. No doubt the Age is quite correct in its assertion that, had it not been for the financial issue in the Presidential campaign, and the universal uncertainty which prevailed as a consequence, fully 2,500 miles would have been the record of the past year.

The new railway construction of 1896 is distributed by sections as follows: New England States, 30 miles; Middle Atlantic states, 169 miles; Central Northern states, 371 miles; North Atlantic states, 255 miles; Gulf and Mississippi Valley states, 291 miles; Southwestern states, 284 miles; Northwestern states, 147 miles; Pacific states, 251 miles.

It will be seen that the greater portion of the new mileage was added in the South—a most significant fact. It shows that the drift of business enterprise and investment is being directed to the South. Part of this is due to the hostile Populist legislation in some of the Western states, and a portion to the promising field now opening in the South. In soil, climate, proximity to markets, and other things the South has advantages which would have been utilized years ago had not the old "race question" and political intolerance of the post-bellum years kept Northern men, and consequently Northern capital, out of the field. As a consequence the West was developed while the South lay dormant. It looks now as though the era of development which should have followed the war is about to dawn upon that section of the country.

SUGAR BEET INDUSTRY.

The people of the United States are paying every year the sum of $125,000,000 to foreign producers for sugar. The cane-producing area in the United States is confined to that portion of the delta lands of the Mississippi river where the climate is hot enough for it. We have soil elsewhere that would raise cane, but it is too far north.

However, cane is no longer the only raw material for sugar production. It is made largely from the sugar beet, and this plant will flourish anywhere south of the 43d parallel of north latitude, on any rich soil. Already this industry is established in Nebraska and California. The beets bring $4 a ton at the factory, and a yield of 12 tons an acre is a low average. It requires assiduous cultivation, but the net profit, after paying all expenses, ranges from $10 to $30 an acre.

An effort is making to have the government resume the payment of a bounty on all sugar produced in this country, with the idea of encouraging the cultivation of the sugar beet. It seems to us that the industry has margin enough to make it profitable without such aid. Farmers complain that there is no money in raising corn. Good corn land will raise sugar beets, and the crop certainly has more money in it.

It would seem that this industry is one which could be made profitable on the same plan that creameries are run. Let a sufficient number of farmers form a stock company, put up a sugar factory, and each bind himself to furnish a certain number of tons of beets, or to cultivate a given area. There is money in sugar.

TRUE AMERICAN GIRL.

The daughter of Claus Spreckles recently married a poor young man because she loved him. Her father objected to the marriage, but the girl was obdurate, and said she had enough money to care for them both. Spreckles refused to be reconciled, and the spirited young woman returned to him all the property and money he gave her, and the young couple start into married life to make their own living.

There is a girl with the true American spirit. Her husband has a jewel, and if Claus Spreckles does not think more of his daughter than he ever did, he is wanting in the qualities which go to make up a man and a father.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

Just what would happen if Congress should adopt the Cuban resolutions offered by Senator Mills is a question. They declare "that the expediency of recognizing the independence of a foreign government belongs to Congress; and when Congress shall so determine, the executive shall act in harmony with the legislative department of the government." But the weight of testimony at present is in favor of Secretary Olney's contention, and if Congress were to proceed on the assumption of Senator Mills it would run against a formidable snag immediately. The President would, of course, decline to admit the right of Congress to recognize a new foreign state, and that would end the matter, unless the hotheads undertook to impeach him. But speculation as to the outcome of such a situation is on the whole unnecessary, for the Mills resolutions are certain to be defeated. Even if Congress were ready to declare that recognition in general is one of its prerogatives, it would not be prepared to exercise this prerogative at present in favor of Cuba. Nor would it be inclined to adopt Senator Mills's suggestion that $10,000 be appropriated for the salary of a minister to that country at a time when the insurgent government is nomadic and our diplomatic representative might have to hold his levees on horseback.

It is announced that the Torrey bankruptcy bill will pass at this session of Congress. But it seems very strange that the only friend of the measure who is working energetically to carry it through its present stage is its author, Judge Torrey. That Congress should pass it, goes without saying. Everybody almost has by this time learned to what an extent the bankruptcy regulations of the various states differ from one another, and how badly the government is in want of a uniform national law on the subject. Indeed, nobody who dwells east of the Mississippi river and north of the Ohio has ever really opposed Judge Torrey's bill. The measure, then, should receive from this Congress the final approval of a vote, and in the circumstances it ought not to be hung up long as a consequence of differences of slight importance as to its provisions.

Senator Allison's announcement that he will not be a member of Major McKinley's cabinet is hardly in the nature of a surprise. To a man who has been in public life so long, and especially in the upper chamber of Congress, the idea of entering upon the complex duties of a cabinet position does not often appeal with much force. Senator Allison's present duties are congenial. Long experience has enabled him, as it has so many of his colleagues, to systemize his work and perform it with comparative ease, a consideration of no small moment with a man of his age. And more than his, his seat in the Senate is secure until 1903, while the McKinley cabinet will retire two years earlier.

Governor Pingree's message to the Michigan legislature shows him once more in his old role of enthusiastic reformer. He is a good fighter and in this statement of policy he lays out enough work to keep him busy during his entire term in office. The corporations come in for their full share of attention and, whatever other criticisms may be visited upon him, it is certain that nobody will accuse him of being in their control. The railways will be prohibited to charge more than two cents a mile for fares if he has his way, and the telephone, telegraph and express companies will pay higher taxes. With so live a governor in the executive chair and the corporations correspondingly active in the lobby, the session now opening at Lansing ought to be anything but dull.

Though the week began with several more bank failures in the Northwest, the situation out there cannot be said to justify any greater alarm than has so far been occasioned, and that is not very serious. It is evident enough that the trouble is owing to causes that date far back and which have been adroitly covered up by various desperate devices while the evil day was deferred. It was bound to come at last, however, and it has come to institutions whose substance had been sapped away by reckless, or at least ill-considered, management. How many more banks there may be that will have to go down before the chapter is ended cannot be said. But it should be distinctly understood that these weakened institutions are the exceptions and not the rule. The banking business of the country as a whole is in a very snug condition; and as for general business the failures incident to the closing of the year have not been nearly as many, so far, as many gloomy prophets were recently predicting they would be.

The new law against option dealing in Germany went into effect with the New Year. From this time it will be instructive to watch the progress of German trading. In this country it has always been assumed that if an anti-option statute was enacted it would cause great injury to every class of buyers and sellers who handle staples. There are not so many staples in the German market, of course, but the law will work great changes in the manner of dealing in those which are there. The first effect of the new condition has been to increase the need and the demand for ready money, and this has been accountable for some shipments of gold from London.

The competition of the Argentine Republic with the United States in the supply of wheat for the world, has been the subject of much discussion, not unmixed with fear as to our future supremacy in this regard. William Goodwin, a fellow of the Royal Geographical society, has recently made an exhaustive study of the subject, and has embraced his observations and conclusions in a valuable book. He finds outside of the vast area of cultivation certain conditions which serve largely to the advantage of Argentina. He points out that the working of the land on shares, the ownership of small farms, the immense acreage that can be had at little cost, and the frugality of the tenants and owners all contribute to a high average of prosperity. Of prime importance, too, is the fact that the farm lands of the Argentine Republic are peopled by a low grade of Italian emigrants, who work hard, live at the cheapest possible cost, and amass money by foregoing many comforts of life. They have no severe winters and no periods of excessive heat to trouble them. Mr. Goodwin says "they are desperately mean in expenditure," are temperate, frugal and industrious. Besides these things, Argentina with her fertile soil, the nearness of her farms to the sea coast, her capacious harbors, and her rapidly extending railway system, is certainly not to be underestimated as a producer of the wheat which is to feed the world.

Perhaps the most hopeful feature of the Turkish situation is the reported intimation from the Czar to the Sultan that he must accede to the programme of the Powers for the administration of his affairs or witness the dismemberment of his empire. When Russia insists on reform in Turkey it is pretty sure to come to pass, and the young Emperor is apparently anxious now to bring about an improvement in the state of things. It is high time, indeed, and we shall all hope that Abdul Hamid will be unable to resort to his usual subterfuge of diplomatic delay. In his way he is a very astute individual and it will require the determined efforts of the Powers to force him to do what he does not desire to do. And of course he does not wish to carry out the Armenian and financial policies proposed by the principal members of the diplomatic corps at Constantinople.

Reliable private information has come to London and Vienna that the Macedonians are organizing for a revolt against Turkish rule in early spring. Such an uprising would result in massacres fully as horrible and widespread as those in Armenia, but with the difference that the victims being Europeans and members of a great historic nation able to invoke assistance all over the world a general struggle would inevitably result. The result would in the first place be war between Athens and Constantinople, since Greece would be obliged to aid the Macedonians, and, in the second place, a universal outbreak of the Mussulmans against the Greeks. It would also mean the destruction of Salonica, the one of the few remaining towns in

hate the Greeks worse than the Mohammedans.

The Macedonians, it is reported, are already well supplied with money and nearly enough arms for beginning the campaign, and they have secret organizations strong enough to insure a general uprising. The great Pashas, whose warlike strength and military skill some uninformed people in this country ignore, have already taken the alarm, and are collecting troops in Macedonia, while they have notified the fierce Albanians, and are arming the ordinary Mussulman population. The Greek government is said to be arming, while the Bulgarian army is waiting to seize Eastern Macedonia. Then Austria would have to move or forever give up Salonica, on whose rich trade the Hapsburgs have so long fixed their eyes. Of course, Russia would have to take part in order to preserve Constantinople, and then the general peace of Europe would be overturned.

The situation certainly appears to be alarming to British eyes, for it would be hard for any partition of Turkey to take place without giving Russia control of Constantinople—the most valuable city, position considered, in Europe—and the long-desired naval outlet. It is probable this more than the welfare of the Greeks which prompts to urge immediate agreement among the powers. Still, the consequences suggested are frightful to contemplate and fully justify its note of warning. For many years a hell broth has been seething and boiling in the Orient, and it would surprise nobody if the final ingredient stirred in should be massacres in Macedonia instead of in Armenia.

SUPPOSED TO BE FUNNY.

What He Changed.

"Groymair's wife brought him home a suit of clothes, but I understand he mustered up the courage to tell her that he had made up his mind to change it."

"Did he change it."

"Oh, yes; he changed his mind."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Poor Jimson.

"Jimson isn't going to the horse show."

"Why not?"

"He gets all the horse show he wants at home."

"How so?"

"Mrs. Jimson nags him from morning to night."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Rising Kind.

Of all the battles of a sporty might,
That never fails to rise for glory's sake,
Give us the kind that wants an appetite—
The mix that makes the luscious buckwheat cake.

—Buffalo Times.

No Local Color.

"So Boston rejected MacMonnies's 'Bacchante!'"

"Yes; they were annoyed because she carried a bunch of grapes instead of a pot of baked beans."—Chicago Record.

Explained.

"Uncle Simon, what is old-fashioned politeness?"

"It is a way people used to have of asking a man about his health and then listening until he got through replying."—Chicago Record.

Blasted Hopes.

"Funny about Shewrup."

"How so?"

"Went out to paint things last night and had a brush with the police before he had tinted one block."—Buffalo Times.

NOTES ON SCIENCE.

The mining fraternity will doubtless be interested in the fact announced by the London Times, that an English syndicate has recently taken up an "ore atomic reduction process." The outcome of this undertaking will undoubtedly have an important bearing on more than one industry. Those concerned in mines are aware that one of the greatest difficulties of a mechanical nature which miners have to deal with, all things considered, is the crushing of quartz, especially of refractory ores, which, owing to the presence of iron pyrites, rendering the metal excessively hard—to deal with which enormous labor and expense have to be incurred. The new invention, it is claimed, does away with all the crushing and stamping and pulverizing, within an hour enabling a miner to reduce the hardest quartz to the condition of sand, and even of fine flour, without slime, and perfectly free from the various deleterious substances which are the curse of the gold miner all the world over. An extraordinary point in this invention is that experience has shown that if, under its operation, ore fails to break into particles within an hour, it may be accepted as proof that it contains no metal.

The production of wood-pulp carpet lining is mentioned in the Manufacturers' Gazette as an additional novelty to the many already furnished by that material. The chief factor in this process is a special preparation of the previously worked pulp, which requires the use of a series of cylinders. During the passage of the pulp through these cylinders it receives the ingredients which render it porous, firm, pliable, and effective for the purpose intended. In connection with these is a retort containing fluids of an albuminous nature, which become turbid, evolving carbonic acid. The fermentation resulting in what is wanted to give the p

Publishers' Column.

WALTHAM AND ELGIN WATCHES.

Some months ago, after supplying our readers several thousand good watches at wholesale prices, we discontinued the offer. For a few weeks we shall offer the following small list much below our former prices, owing to reduction of certain grades by the manufacturer. A couple will be recognized as standard watches of our former list. The others are good grades at reduced prices.

OFFER NO. S.—BLADE SPECIAL.

Open Face or Hunting Case, Waltham or Elgin Works—Be Sure to Name Your Choice When You Order.

A $200 solid gold watch cannot be bought for $20, but the Weekly Blade offers a watch under the above number which has all the appearances and most of the good qualities of a $200 watch. You have probably never seen a watch like this and must therefore depend upon us for the description of the latest, handsomest and best watch made by the great American Waltham and Elgin factories. Time and money have been spent in bringing this particular watch to perfection. The movement (or works) contains 15 jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion, patent regulator, and all improvements. The case is the thinnest filled watch case ever made. Remember, we mean that the watch when closed in the pocket is thin. The lids of the case are the usual thickness and form a perfect protection for the movement. The case is made of a plate of fine composition metal, over which two heavy sheets of 14k. gold are drawn, making a case that is for all purposes as good as gold, and warranted for 20 years. Every part which is subjected to constant wear, such as the ring, thumb piece, joint plugs, hinges, etc., is of solid gold. The works are especially recommended where the most accurate time is required. This is just the watch for doctors, lawyers, clergymen, county committeemen, and all others who wish a really first-class article. As a present it cannot be excelled. It is so thin and convenient in form that it will even make a good and satisfactory ladies' watch, and it is especially recommended for school teachers and other professional women on account of its accuracy, which is equalled by no watch made especially for ladies.

We will send this watch, open face or hunting case, as desired, by registered mail to any of our subscribers for $20.

No. 333.

No. 333 is one of the finest gentlemen's watches we have ever offered. The movements, either Waltham or Elgin, are full jeweled, and are guaranteed perfect timekeepers. The case is of the finest gold-filled, and guaranteed to wear the same as solid gold for 15 years. The price of this watch in open face is $13.50, and in hunting case, $16.50.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $20.00.

No. 15.—The works are manufactured at Waltham or Elgin. They are made of the finest materials, carefully selected. The jewels are all cut and polished in Europe, where secret processes are handed down from generation to generation. The dial is made of the finest porcelain, and the hands of blue tempered steel. The case is solid 14k. United States assay, handsomely engraved. This watch is a stem winder and setter and hunting case. We will send this watch, delivery guaranteed, for $20.

Lady's Watches, Waltham or Elgin, $15.

No. 16.—The works of No. 16 are the same as No. 15, but the case is gold filled, 14k., guaranteed to wear just like solid gold for 20 years. The joints, rings and parts exposed to unusual wear are solid gold. It is hunting case, and is handsomely engraved. Sent by registered mail, delivery guaranteed, for $15.

Gentlemen's Watches.

No. 200.—Solid gold 40 dwt. hunting case with Elgin or Waltham works, 18 size, 14 karat, and guaranteed timekeeper, sent by registered mail to any part of the United States for $33.50.

No. 201—Gold filled Elgin or Waltham watch, 18 size, open face case, guaranteed for 15 years, the movement or works contain seven jewels. This watch will be sent to any subscriber of The Blade in perfect order, delivery guaranteed, for $10.

Address all orders:

THE BLADE,
Toledo, Ohio.

FAMOUS BATTLE PICTURES.

Owing to a popular demand from our subscribers, and especially from members of the G. A. R., we have arranged with a large publisher for a quantity of pictures of the most celebrated battles of the civil war. These pictures are of a high grade, chromo colors, large size (22x28), reproduced from the original oil paintings with wonderful accuracy. More than 100,000 have been sold during the past year at one dollar each, and our price to any person who orders a picture alone will be one dollar. But we did not get these pictures for sale or for profit. We propose to give one picture free, postpaid by mail, to every person sending us $1 for the Weekly Blade one year. If your time expires soon, you can obtain a picture when you renew. If your time expires some time hence, and you want a picture now, send a dollar, and let us extend your time a year ahead from date of expiration. Or, get us a new subscriber and we will enter the new name for Blade one year, and send the picture to the remitter, if so directed. However, we are confident those who obtain one picture, will want several more, or perhaps all of them. You can obtain them one at a time by sending us new dollar subscribers. Try one of them when you renew.

NOTICE, however, that the above offer is only to those who send us $1 for subscription or renewal after this date.

Here is the list; make your selection from it:

Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.
Battle of Shiloh, Tenn.
Battle of Five Forks, Va.
Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn.
Battle of The Wilderness, Va.
Battle of Fort Donelson, Tenn.
Battle of Champion Hill, Miss.
Battle of Antietam, Md.
Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
Battle of Spottsylvania, Va.
Battle of Vicksburg, Miss.
Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn.
Battle of Cold Harbor Va.
Battle of Resaca, Ga.
Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Battle of Olustee, Fla.
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Battle of Bunker Hill.
Battle of Tippecanoe.
Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
Battle of Pea Ridge, Ark.
Battle of Bull's Run, Va.
Battle of Chancellorsville, Va.
Battle of Big Horn (Custer's Last Charge.)
Battle oi Chickamauga, Ga.
Storming of Fort Wagner, S. C.
Capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.
Battle of New Orleans, La.
Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.
Capture and Death of Sitting Bull.
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Battle of Stone River, Tenn.
Assault on Fort Sanders, Tenn.
Battle of Franklin, Tenn.
Battle of Nashville, Tenn.
Battle of Corinth, Miss.
Perry's Victory on Lake Erie.
Fort Pillow Massacre, Tenn.
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Battle of Opequan or Winchester, Va.

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Battle of Mars-La-Tour.
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Battle near Orleans.
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THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

NICKEL SILVER TABLE WARE.

It is Better Than Plated Stuff and Saves Much Worry.

We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember), teaspoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that an expert might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are no thicker than solid silver.

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They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

1 dozen teaspoons	$1 25
¼ dozen teaspoons	35
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½ dozen tablespoons or forks	1 35
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks	2 00
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½ dozen table knives	2 25
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These are made in only the one pattern. They are sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

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WHEN THE YEAR IS GETTIN' LATE

When election days is over
And the wind's a screechin' round,
When the leaves forgit they're holdin' on
And tumble to the ground;
When the cotton patch and cornfield
Is in a mournful state,
Then you know that Autumn's over
And the Year is gittin' late.

When the moon comes sailin' over
Before the sun's gone down,
And puffs her big cheeks at him
And smiles and blinks around.
When the skies is bright as jasper
And the blaze snaps in the grate,
While you pull your big chair closer
Then the Year is gittin' late.

When the farmer's pretty daughters
Are a wrappin' up the trees,
A thinkin' as they're windin' them
Their pa is hard to please;
And a wonderin' if their sweethearts
Is a waitin' by the gate,
You may know that love is brewin'
And the Year is gittin' late.

When you see your barns a burstin'
And your apple bins is riz,
When you're feelin' sorter lonesoma
And you don't know why it is,
When you taste the ripe persimmon
With a freedom that is great,
There are many signs unfailin'
That the Year is gittin' late.

When the weeds have donned their nightcaps
And the snow quilts settle down,
And your sweet old patient mother
Tucks the cover close around.
A kissin' you to dreamland,
Where you'll snugly sleep and wait
Like the flowers, for the morning,
Then the Year is gittin' late!

—Jennie Harris, in Oswego Independent.

SCIENTIFIC FACTS.

The Salt Lake Tribune publishes some timely facts as to the cost of producing an ounce of silver from the mines of Utah during the year ending June 10, 1896, as furnished in the returns of various diggings on file in the office of Assessor Lynch, as required by the law which imposes a tax upon the net output of the mine. These returns are accompanied by affidavits of their accuracy. Among this stock of returns is that which comes from the Old Jordan and Galena, namely, that in the production of 20,000 tons of ore a loss of over $13,000 was sustained, the superintendence of the property alone involving that amount of expenditure. The Phoenix Mining company produced 632 tons of ore during the year, at an actual cost of $9,000, which also shows a loss to the producer. The Lexington, whose earnings have for years been going across the waters to fill the Parisians' pocket, notes another big loss during the year, although A. Lavigino approximates the net output at $15,000. The Maxfield mine produced 100 tons of ore, gross value $6,000, with $14,000 expended.

Experiments made by M. Duclaux of Paris on the chemical rays of the sun, have been published in the Annales of the French Institute. The activity of the rays was eliminated by exposing solutions of oxalic acid of known strength to their action. It appears that the oxalic acid is converted, with more or less rapidity into carbonic acid, which escapes, and at the end of the experiment the degree of acidity of the solution indicated the amount of the oxalic acid which had been decomposed or "burnt." The results showed, as was to be expected, that with an overcast sky the chemical action of the sun's rays was much less than on a fine day, but beyond this they were far from concordant; with a dappled sky, or with light cumulous clouds, the solar combustion might be more active than with a blue sky or with a slight amount of cirrus—in a word, the apparent fineness of the day is not in any way related to its chemical activity and its hygenic power, though, on the whole, the action was greater in August than in September. This is in accordance with the experience of every photographer.

The profitable utilization of the great masses of waste glass accumulated at factories is now accomplished in a comparatively easy manner by M. Garchey, a Frenchman, says the American Manufacturer. He grinds the waste glass and puts the powder into a metallic mould, which is introduced into two furnaces in succession, in order to devitrify the mass; the first furnace serves for the gradual annealing of the mass, so that all the parts are devitrified as uniformly as possible; the mould remains about one hour in this furnace. Owing to their pulverized condition, the glass molecules are finely separated and suffer very quickly the devitrifying action of the heat. Becoming soft, the molecules weld together and form a very consistent dough. In this condition the mould is taken out of the furnace and put into the second furnace that is heated to a very high temperature. In this furnace the mould is left for only a few minutes, this second operation being intended to complete the devitrification and to make the mass more pliable. The substance is now in a condition to be pressed into different shapes, there being produced in this manner all kinds of ornamental or other building "stone," which is generally called ceramic stone.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

A Prominent Frenchman's Views on an Important Question.

M. de Lanessan, the former governor-general of Indo-China, in the course of an article contributed to the Rappel, cautions his countrymen against entertaining any illusions as to being supported by Europe, and especially by Russia, in an attempt to get England out of Egypt, says the London Standard. He remarks:

"The occupation of Egypt by England concerns central Europe very much less than is generally supposed in France. Germany and her allies regard it as a source of discord between France and Great Britain, and will certainly do nothing toward putting an end to it. As far as Russia is concerned, she is above all things a continental and an Asiatic power. Thanks to a marvelously clever policy and to the support derived from our alliance she has within a recent period, made good her supremacy over the whole of central Asia, China and Korea on the one hand, and over the Ottoman empire on the other hand. As soon as her trans-Siberian railway is completed, it will afford the shortest means of transit to the far east. The occupation of Egypt by England, therefore, concerns her only to a very secondary degree. The only thing that she has an interest in requiring is that the Suez canal should be freely opened to her ships. We should be entertaining a dangerous delusion if we relied on the aid of Russia to help us in obtaining the complete evacuation of Egypt by Great Britain."

M. de Lanessan concludes by remarking that, under these circumstances, France should confine herself to her interests and not allow herself to be swayed by considerations of a sentimental character. He holds also that the interests of France lie in being on good terms with England, who is commercially her best customer, and with whom kindred institutions create a link which it is for the benefit of both countries to draw closer and to sever which would be an unspeakable calamity.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. Noyes, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

Your Gem and Flower.

January—The garnet and snowdrop, symbolic of constancy, true friendship, fidelity and purity.

February—The amethyst and primrose; sincerity, freedom from care and strife.

March—The bloodstone and violets; strength, wisdom, bravery and love.

April—The diamond and daisy; innocence, purity and peace.

May—The emerald and hawthorne; humorality and a happy domestic life.

June—A agate and honeysuckle; health, wealth and long and happy life.

July—The ruby and water lily; charity, dignity and faith in love.

August—The sardonyx and poppy; conjugal love and good fortune.

September—Sapphire and morning glory; equanimity and peace of mind, protection against envy and treachery.

October—The opal and hops; hope, purity and courage.

November—The topas and chrysanthemum; fidelity in friendship and love.

Before Retiring....

take Ayer's Pills, and you will sleep better and wake in better condition for the day's work. Ayer's Cathartic Pills have no equal as a pleasant and effectual remedy for constipation, biliousness, sick headache, and all liver troubles. They are sugar-coated, and so perfectly prepared, that they cure without the annoyances experienced in the use of so many of the pills on the market. Ask your druggist for Ayer's Cathartic Pills. When other pills won't help you, Ayer's is

THE PILL THAT WILL.

FOR THE LADIES.

The cleverest women are all wearing small hats when small hats are needed. The more diminutive the hat the better for the theatre.

A pretty young girl wore last evening at the Valentine a little bonnet composed of a band of fur, with a ribbon on

DAINTY THEATRE HAT.

either side, and a little jet ornament, in the shape of a spray, at the knot of each bow.

The collar she wore with it was a large one, of heavy lace, edged with a ruffle of mousseline de soie. At her throat was a crush band of black velvet; at the back stood a Medici collar of wired lace.

She looked both dainty and elegant, and had the comfortable assurance that she could keep her hat on in peace.

The lingerie worn with evening gowns

LINGERIE FOR THE EVENING.

must be beautiful when thin dresses are chosen. It is considered the proper thing to have the lingerie match or harmonize with the gown worn over it.

A very handsome set of lingerie worn by a Toledo belle, is of fine thread cambric. The corse cover is of the cambric, with strips of Valenciennes lace insertion. It is made a regular baby waist, with a ruffle of lace around the neck.

The skirt is made with a yoke three inches deep, and is tucked at the top. This gives the rest of the skirt the appearance of a deep ruffle. Eight inches apart are bands of the insertion between the tucks and running the entire length of the skirt. The bottom is finished with a frill of the lace. The whole was worn over pale blue taffeta silk.

The dress it was to be worn with was pale blue satin covered with blue tulle. This elaborate underwear was intended for dancing. As the dancer whirls around in the dance one catches a glimpse of a white and blue cloud of lace and silk.

TAUGHT HER A LESSON.

She Probably Found After That a New Place for Hiding the Key.

The other day a very estimable lady came to town to do a little shopping, says the Atlanta Constitution. Of course the key was put under the doormat so that her son, whom she expected to return before her, could get in. In her absence a tramp, who had been harging around the place a number of days and had caught on, boldly went into the house, got some of the choicest viands out of the pantry, put them on the table and pitched in. He also found a bottle of wine that revived his spirits. He did not expect any one there for a number of hours and so he took it easy.

In the meantime the lady of the house having finished her shopping returned home, and seeing the front door unlocked, expected to find her son inside. Imagine her horror when she opened the dining-room door and saw sitting at her table the rustiest-looking tramp that ever vied with his companions in accumulating dirt on his epidermis. The lady was dumbfounded. In the silence that followed the tramp coolly remarked: "Madam, I shall become scarce now, ez I've eaten enuff. All I kin give yer back fer this good meal and wat I wan't ter say to yer is that yer ought to find a new hidin' place fer yer key. I won't charge yer nothin' for this advice." With that the tramp departed.

"KING'S HORSES."

A LITTLE TALK ABOUT SOME THAT FIGURE IN HISTORY.

How Saladin Presented One to Richard, the Lion Hearted—William, the Conqueror's Steed.

In the Mother Goose verses about Humpty Dumpty, the horses are mentioned first:

"All the king's horses and all the king's men,
Could never put Humpty Dumpty together again."

Certainly, some of the king's thought quite as highly of their horses as they did of their soldiers, and gave them more care and attention, says the Philadelphia Times. William the Conqueror had a splendid horse, which he rode in battle. At his approach the horse would paw and prance and caracole, showing its agility and grace to please its master.

King Richard the Lion-Hearted was a brave and gallant soldier, and he loved his horses as well as he did his friends. Although he was an English king, he did not speak English, but French. So all his horses had French names given them for their different colors, as the Black, the Bay, the Sorrel, only the words for the colors were French and with some diminutive ending to signify affection.

He left most of his horses at home when he went on a crusade to Palestine, or else they were killed in battle, for his enemy, Saladin, the great Mahometan king, heard he was fighting on foot. He thought it a disgrace that so famous a warrior should be dismounted so he sent him as a gift a magnificent Arabian steed. When Richard saw how fiery it was he ordered that one of his knights should mount it first. Instantly the spirited creature turned and darted away at full speed, and in spite of spur and bit carried its rider straight through the camp of the foes and up to the very door of Saladin's tent.

Saladin was deeply mortified, because it looked so much like an attempt to entrap the English king and take him captive. He sent the knight back with an honorable escort, and another horse, perfectly gentle and obedient, was given to Richard, who rode it until the end of his campaign in the East.

King Edward and the Black Prince, his brave son, were making war on France, and in one of the battles the war-horse of the French king was captured, although his master escaped. The next morning the English king courteously returned the horse, which was a generous deed, when a well-trained war-horse was so valuable.

But it was not only kings that loved their horses. Queen Elizabeth rode as fearlessly as her royal father, Henry VIII., and went on horseback to review her troops when the Spanish ships were sailing over the seas to attack her kingdom. Even "good Queen Anne" of later memory was devoted to the chase and to driving, and she often drove for miles before dinner on a deer hunt or a fox hunt.

One of the finest pictures of Queen Victoria represents her in a low phaeton drawn by a beautiful horse and surrounded by sportsman, spirited horses and dogs at a "meet." The picture is caried "The Queen's Harriers.'

TELEPHONED TO HIS DOG.

Tom Reynolds Has to Be Very Careful or He'll Lose the Dog.

Tom Reynolds, of Reynoldsville, was in town this week, says the Punxsutawney Pa., Spirit. Tom has an intelligent dog which was sent to him from Australia, and of which he is very fond. The dog is also badly infatuated with Tom, who has a telephone in his house. Tom has taught the dog to understand that the machine can talk by holding the receiver to the dog's ear. On several occasions when Tom has been away he called up his residence and had the dog brought to the 'phone, when he would talk to the canine in such soothing language as to fill the canine with delight. He would, of course, recognize his master's voice and make all sorts of demonstrations of joy. About two weeks ago Tom brought the dog to Punxsutawney, and while here talked over the 'phone to his friends at home. He also permitted the dog to listen. From this the dog got the idea that there were only two 'phones in existence—one at his home and the other at the Hotel Waverly in Punxsutawney, as the circumstance about to be disclosed will abundantly prove.

Last Saturday Mr. Reynolds came to Punxsutawney and called up the dog at home as usual. The dog barked and whined and made a great ado, all of which could be heard over the wire.

About an hour afterward, just as Tom was about to leave, judge of his surprise to see his dog come bounding into the hotel! He had run fourteen miles in less than an hour.

Now Tom says that, as the dog is firmly of the impression that there is but one other telephone box in the country besides the one in his house, he will not dare to talk to the dog from any other point, because if he does that dog will start immediately for the Waverly Hotel, Punxsutawney, expecting to find him there.

SOME LATE NEW THINGS.

In the construction of vessels a Brooklyn man has a new device, consisting of placing a number of keels on the bottom of the boat and placing air chambers between them having downwardly opening mouths and means for supplying the chambers with air as desired.

For measuring cloth a device recently patented has two rollers, between which the cloth is pulled, one of them being connected with an indicator to show the number of yards reeled off. It also has a trough for holding the bolt of cloth and a knife for cutting the cloth.

A new propeller for steamboats consists of a central hub, a broad inclosing rim and the usual propeller blades, the ends of which are fastened to the rim, which revolves with the propeller, thus lessening the liability of breakage by the blades coming in contact with other substances.

To prevent nuts from slipping and coming off a new device has a small threaded bolt projecting beyond the main bolt, the threads of which run in opposition to the latter. The nut has two opening arms threaded to fit the small bolt, on opposite sides, which can be sprung away out of line when the nut is to be unscrewed.

PERSONS AND THINGS.

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge's son George has gone to Germany to take the course at the University of Berlin.

Dr. Conan Doyle refuses to make a contract for a book until it is entirely finished. The pressure that would otherwise be put upon him, he says, would tend to injure the quality of his work.

Queen Victoria will personally dictate and revise a biography of her majesty, which will appear this year. The work will tell the story of the longest reign in the history of England as the Queen herself regards it.

The new Danish Ambassadress at Paris is an American woman, formerly Miss Charles Moulton, nee Greenough, of Cambridge, Mass. As Lily Greenough she lived in the mansion now devoted to Radcliffe College, and as a "beauty" she was preeminent.

Cornelius Vanderbilt has always been the good young man of the Vanderbilt family. A witty (though not altogether charitable) clergyman, who once met him at dinner, remarked afterward that Cornelius "would undoubtedly be the Vanderbilt family's representative in heaven."

A recent issue of a London paper mentions the case of a pastor named Matheson, who has just died at the age of 90 after serving sixty years continuously as Church of England minister at Patterdale, Westmoreland. For many years his living brought him only $30 a year, and the highest he ever got was $90.

In her book of Irish beauties, Mrs. Gerard quotes Gladstone's story of the surpassing charms of Mrs. Dillon, who kept a furnishing goods store on a fashionable street in Dublin. One day the beautiful Duchess of England, the viceroy's wife, drove up in a grand carriage, went into the shop, and looking hard at Mrs. Dillon, who was behind the counter, said: "Yes, you are the most beautiful woman in the three kingdoms!" She then immediately left the shop. It was conjugal jealousy, excited by the duke's praise of the fair Irish woman, that occasioned the visit.

Here are a couple of recent Kansas incidents. A letter has been received by W. T. Bland, of Atchison, district judge-elect, from a rural citizen, asking Mr. Bland to tell him where the judge-elect learned to write. "I wish to send my boy to school," the farmer wrote, "and I'm afraid he might hit on the same school you went to." Governor Morrill has pardoned a convict, Hartwell P. Heath, sentenced from Emporia for cutting money on false pretenses. In remembering Heath's having written the

FOUND BY X-RAYS.

A Ball for Months Imbedded in His Arm.

The wonderful powers of the X rays as an aid to surgery were fully demonstrated by Dr. J. M. Withrow and Dr. O. H. Castle recently at the Laura Memorial college, Cincinnati. The test was one of the most successful that has been accomplished in this city.

On the evening of January 21 of last year Andrew Kenan, the son of Mr.

THE BULLET IN THE ARM.

Norman G. Kenan, vice-president of the Cincinnati Gaslight and Coke company, was accidentally shot in the forearm by a boy companion. Young Kenan had invited Clarence Hale up to his bedroom, and was showing him a self-acting 32-caliber revolver that had been presented to him. After the workings of the weapon had been shown to Hale young Kenan loaded the pistol and laid it on a table. Clarence picked it up and accidentally pressed the trigger. The next instant the report of a revolver startled the household. The bullet struck Andrew Kenan in the right arm and imbedded itself just below the elbow.

Mr. Kenan was seated on a high, straight-backed chair, and his arm was stripped to the shoulder. Remembering the nature of the wound and the course taken by the ball, Dr. Withrow felt assured that it veered slightly below the elbow. The arm was rested on a smooth pine board, above which was suspended the delicate green bulb, in which the powerful rays are made. Dr. Castle attended the switchboard, and when the current had been turned on and the pale light showed itself in the bulb Dr. Withrow placed the fluroscope against the arm, directly opposite the ray, and peeped into the small bell-shaped opening. After moving the fluoroscope backwards and forward along the arm a few times the doctor exclaimed.

"Here it is; I see it. It is resting in the fleshy part of the arm, away from all the bones and about one inch below the head of the radius."

The experiment had proven a success, and Dr. Withrow and the other physicians present were highly elated as was also Mr. Kenan.

After each person present had taken a look at the missile, the machine was so adjusted as to allow Mr. Kenan to take a look at it himself. He gazed at the ball which had caused him so much pain and uneasiness for some time, and as he withdrew his face from the fluoroscope, he remarked:

"Well, it's there; but I guess as long as it remains where it is it won't hurt me any."

SHARP WEAPONS.

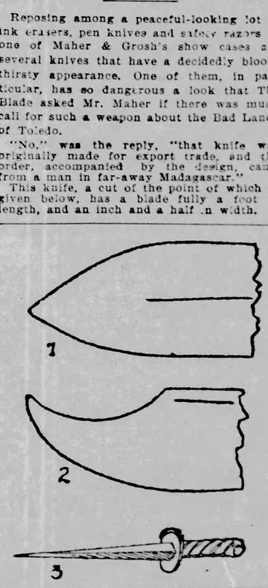
KNIVES THAT ARE IN DEMAND BY THE BLOODTHIRSTY.

Native of Madagascar Gives a Toledo Firm a Peculiar Order—The Old Bowie.

Reposing among a peaceful-looking lot of ink erasers, pen knives and safety razors in one of Maher & Grosh's show cases are several knives that have a decidedly bloodthirsty appearance. One of them, in particular, has so dangerous a look that The Blade asked Mr. Maher if there was much call for such a weapon about the Bad Lands of Toledo.

"No," was the reply, "that knife was originally made for export trade, and the order, accompanied by the design, came from a man in far-away Madagascar."

This knife, a cut of the point of which is given below, has a blade fully a foot in length, and an inch and a half in width. It



is double edged, drawn to an extremely keen point, but the sides of the point slightly convex.

"The gentleman who ordered this knife," continued Mr. Maher, "was very careful to tell how the knife should be made, and why it must be shaped as it is. 'I want a knife,' he wrote, 'that, if it hits a "nigger's" rib, will slide one way or the other, and the point will not stick in the bone.'

"The thing seemed rather strange to us, but a very short time afterward we had an order for a knife from Idaho, ordering a hunting weapon much like the Madagascar knife, but with a slightly duller point. In this letter was an explanation of the demand for a knife with a double-edged point. It seems that some time before the letter was written, a mail carrier disappeared. Nothing was known of his fate until his skeleton was found, and lying near it was the skeleton of a wolf. Sticking in one of the ribs of the wolf was a sharp-pointed knife, which told the whole story. The mail carrier had evidently been attacked by a pack of wolves, and, in defending himself, he had lost his knife by the weapon being struck so deeply into the rib that it could not be easily withdrawn. The wolves doubtless devoured their companion and the luckless carrier, with perfect impartiality."

"Then there is still plenty of calls for 'killing weapons,' remarked The Blade.

"Yes, indeed, and America furnishes the best on earth. What is known as the English dirk (cut 2), is in reality the bowie knife, without the slightest change from its original lines as designed by Col. Bowie. The English recognize it as a good thing, and calmly appropriated and christened it. It is the favorite hunting knife in all lands."

"Is there much call for the pretty little daggers you keep?" asked the reporter.

"The dagger business is peculiar," was the reply. "Up North, you will find an occasional dagger doing duty as a paper cutter, or as a pen-holder, but beyond that owned by a beauty who is half afraid of the glittering blade herself. Northerners are apt to chose a dagger of almost lance thickness, but down in the South we sell an entirely different sort of a weapon.

"Here," continued Mr. Maher, "is the dagger that sells best in New Orleans and the large towns on the Gulf coast. (See cut 3.) You will note that it is extremely heavy, although the blade is only about four inches long. A transverse section of the blade would show nearly a diamond shape. It is keen as a needle, but its shape makes it hard to break. They say down there that they want a knife which you can 'stick in and turn around,' without any fear of breaking. This knife is made on the lines of the Italian stiletto, and it is quite expensive. However, the demand is good, and there is many a black-eyed creole belle carrying one of these new Toledo blades."

What He Did.

"Everything was all right," said Wheelwright, "until my wheel struck a sharp rock."

"And what did you do at this juncture?" asked Walker.

"At this juncture I stopped until I could arrange a puncture."—Judge.

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A STORY OF LONGFELLOW.

Mrs. Fields Tells an Interesting Anecdote of the Author.

Speaking of Longfellow, in her recently published volume of literary reminiscences, Mrs. Jane J. Fields says:

"His kindness and love of humor carried him through many a tedious interruption. He generously overlooked the fact of the subterfuges to which men and women resorted in order to get an interview, and to help them out made as much of their excuses as possible. Speaking one day of the persons who came to see him at Nahant, he said: 'One man, a perfect stranger, came with an omnibus full of ladies. He descended, introduced himself, then returning to the omnibus, took out all the ladies, one, two, three, four and five, with a little girl, and brought them in. I entertained them to the best of my ability, and they stayed an hour. They had scarcely gone when a forlorn woman in black came up to me on the piazza and asked for a dipper of water. 'Certainly,' I replied, and went to fetch her a glass. When I brought it she said: 'There is another woman just by the fence who is tired and thirsty. I will carry this to her.' But she struck her head as she passed through the window and spilled the water on the piazza. 'Oh, what have I done!' she said. 'If I had a floor cloth I woul dwipe it up.' 'Oh, no matter about the water,' I said, 'if you have not hurt yourself.' Then I went and brought more water for both and sent them on their way refreshed and rejoicing.

"It would be both an endless and unprofitable task to recall more of the curious experiences which popularity brought down upon him. There is a passage among Mrs. Field's notes, however, in which she describes an incident during Longfellow's last visit to England, which should not be overlooked. Upon his arrival the queen sent a graceful message and invited him to Windsor Castle, where she received him with all the honors; but she told no foreign tribute touched him deeper than the words of an English hod-carrier, who came up to the carriage door at Harrow, and asked permission to take the hand of the man who had written the 'Voices of the Night.'"

ITS DESCENDANT DEGENERATES.

The Umbrella is No Longer a Portly, Respectable Instrument.

The real old family umbrella has gone out. Call that slim, stuck-up, affected, attenuated thing a family umbrella? Go away, says a writer in London Queen.

I remember the genuine family umbrella; it was kept in readiness behind every front door; it was a large, portly, heavy instrument. As an emblem of respectability it was highly esteemed in middle-class society; it was serviceable as a tent in rainy weather; it could be used as a weapon of offense and defense on occasion.

I have seen a picture of an elderly gentleman keeping off a footpad by means of this lethal umbrella. He made us if he would spear or prod the villain. We, one prod alone would make a hole six inches in diameter in that murderous carcass.

The nurse used to carry it, with difficulty managing the baby and the umbrella; it went, too, to tea with the favored ladies; the maid who "fetched" them home took the umbrella with her. It succeeded the lantern and the club formerly carried by the "protector" when he escorted his mistress to the card party after dark.

I remember it, I say. There were three brothers who came to the same school where I went, a tiny little boy. They lived at some distance, and had to pass on their way to school through a stratum of inferior respectability. Every morning brought to these three brothers the delight and excitement of battle with the boys belonging to that inferior respectability.

To the eldest brothers, who carried the really important weapon, the umbrella was really battle-axe, like that of the Lion Heart. So he raised it; so he wielded it; so he swung it; so he laid his enemies low to right and to left of him, before him and behind him; while the other two, relying on the bonks tights he straps brought them to bear, with shrewd knocks and thwacks and poundings, on heads and shoulders and ribs.

'Twas a famous family umbrella—green, too, if I remember aright.

HE SAID "POKE AND BEANS."

The Failure of a Georgia Man to Pass Himself Off as a Yankee.

Joe Cavan, who has had a whirlwind experience in the South and West, said to the crowd in the same old place, the uptown hotel:

"My advice to you all is, be natural. Do not try to deceive people with your affected talk or in your clothes. You will be certain to show the cloven foot somewhere. I was at a dinner once in St. Louis. It was given by Governor Marmaduke. Before we had given our orders, for at a Western dinner every man has the privilege of saying what he wants, the governor asked each one of his guests where he hailed from. One was from Tennessee, one from Illinois, one from California. The East was not represented, so I handed in my card from Vermont. Just then the waiter passed the bill of fare, and my ruling passion asserting itself, 'Poke and beans,' said I, in my natural voice.

"'Cavan,' said the governor of Missouri, vehemently, 'you're from Georgy. No man from Vermont ever said "poke and beans," and your scheme of passing for a Yankee, sub, is reprehensible, and will cost you the wine.'

"I have sailed under my own colors ever since."—New York Sun.

Impossible.

"Mademoiselle, this meat is worse than that you served last week."

"Impossible, monsieur; it's the same piece."—La Caricature.

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12.	The Bridge.

THE HOUSEHOLD

"Rest is the fitting of self to one's sphere.
'Tis loving and serving the highest and best,
'Tis onward, unswerving, and this is true rest!
And true rest is home."

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON, EDITOR.

AT THE DOOR.

A friend stands at the door,
In either tight-closed hand
Hiding rich gifts, three hundred and three score;
Waiting to strew them daily o'er the land
Even as seed the sower.
Each drops he, treads it in, and passes by;
It can not be made fruitful till it die.

O good New Year, we clasp
This warm, shut hand of thine,
Loosing forever, with half sigh, half gasp,
That which from ours falls like dead fingers' twine;
Ay, whether fierce its grasp
Has been, or gentle, having been, we know
That it was blessed; let the old year go.

Friend, come thou like a friend,
And whether bright thy face,
Or dim with clouds we can not comprehend,
We'll hold out patient hands, each in his place,
And trust thee to the end.
Knowing thou leadest onward to those spheres
Where there are neither days, nor months, nor years.

—Dinah Mulock Craik.

THE HUMAN VOICE.

ITS POWER WHEN WELL TRAINED TO MOVE THE HEART.

Keep as True to Your Ideals as Possible—It Is Character—Growth in the Right Direction.

I have often thought of the magic power that lies in the human voice, but which is so little realized that it is only the few who give its cultivation any thought or effort. Those who hope to be singers, and to move great audiences with the melody of their skilfully managed tones, and the student in elocution and oratory, will subject themselves to training, but ordinary people pay no attention to the note to which their voices are keyed, whether it be shrill, harsh and nasal, or so sweet and harmonious as to arouse, whatever be the words, a sense of pleasure in the consciousness of the hearer.

Not long ago, I was riding in a street car just opposite a sweet-faced girl whose clear complexion, tinged with pink, bright eyes and "bonnie brown hair" made her a charming picture to look upon. I watched her with a keen delight in her flower-like beauty, until I heard her speak, and then the delight was turned into pain. There was a metallic ring to her every word which was far from musical; an entire lack of flexibility of tone that was anything but harmonious. I thought what self-control and self-sacrifice would be necessary to make one willing to listen to such a voice during a lifetime.

Thinking of this I am reminded of a passage in Lafcadio Hearn's recent book upon Japan. He tells of a woman, ugly, disfigured by smallpox, and blind, who sat down upon his doorstep and began to sing. It was a miracle of a voice—deep, unutterably touching in its penetrating sweetness. "And as she sang those who listened began to weep silently. I did not distinguish the words; but I felt the sorrow and the sweetness and the patience of the life of Japan pass with her voice into my heart—plaintively seeking for something never there. A tenderness invisible seemed to gather and quiver about us, and sensations of places and of times forgotten came softly back, mingled with feelings ghostlier—feelings not of any place or time in living memory. * * * * * And so the chant of a blind woman in this city of the Far East may revive in even a Western mind emotion deeper than individual being—vague dumb pathos of forgotten sorrows—dim loving impulses of generations unremembered."

To us all are familiar the stories of the soothing effect which the sweet tones of the human voice has upon the sick and the dying. We have seen hundreds of people hang breathless upon the notes of some singer whose wonderful voice ranged upward and downward with the ease of the meadow lark's song. And no one denies the power of the varying tones of the well-trained orator.

All this is understood and acknowledged, but the desirability of putting melody into the voice in ordinary conversation is mostly unthought of. In connection with what I have quoted from Mr. Hearn, he speaks of hearing "twenty-five years ago, in a London park, a girl bid somebody 'good-night.'" Who she was he did not know. He never saw her face nor heard the voice again, and yet the sweetness of the tones in which those simple words were uttered still vibrated in his memory, after the passing of a quarter of a century. Such was the power dwelling in a musical "good-night."

A person may possess rare intelligence and a good command of language, but if these are united to nasal utterance a greater part of the conversational charm is wanting. I remember reading of a rarely fascinating woman who spoke seldom, but when she did it was in a voice of such sweetness as to bring a longing to hear it again, and in this lay the secret of her power. The harshest voice may be modulated into pleasantness. It only needs care and the same kind of training which the mother and teacher give to enable the child to speak grammatically.

"What is the use of having an ideal? You cannot possibly hold fast to it in the wear and tear of this world. When one comes to see the dark side of human nature as it is constantly exhibited, even by the very one you are trying to aid, it shadows this enthusiasm for helping humanity very materially."

There are always two sides to life—the bright side and the dark side. There are always two selves in the nature of every individual—the higher and the lower—which are ever struggling for supremacy. Because there are darkness and clouds and tempests, is that any reason for doubting the reality of the yellow sunshine, the flowers, the blue sky and soft airs of summer? In a recent paper was an account of a train wrecking by which several people were sent suddenly into another life. Because there are human beings so utterly brutalized, so devoid of ruth, does that prove that there is no love, no sympathy, no tenderness in the heart of any human being? No. A thousand times, no.

We are too apt to see the dark side, [illegible] of humanity, and few effort of those who are doing their best to make the world an easier place to live in; to help the suffering; to bring light into darkness—forget the evidences of growth into better things and see only the misery, the crime, the wrong-doing that are, I grant, everywhere visible. They do not mean, as some would have us believe, that the human race is going to destruction. They do mean that the fight is on in an extraordinary way between the forces of good and evil, and that the good will finally triumph.

Let us hold fast, then, to our highest ideal. There is a potency in faith which cannot be measured. It is really an electric energy which goes forth to create the conditions desired. There may seem to be failure for a season, but the effort is not lost or thrown away. Hold fast to the thought even if action be impossible, and by and by, in some way, its results will be manifest. When we come to understand, and to make that understanding the basis of action, that there are higher, finer forces within our reach than the merely objective, material ones which, for the most part, control us, then life will assume a different coloring; greater possibilities will open before us, and deeper, truer happiness will come without the seeking.

That the finer forces of life are forging to the front to be more generally used is evident, even upon the material plane. Look at the wonderful discoveries in science which are being made in the present, making possible what a few decades ago would have seemed a fairy dream if mentioned, to be laughed at and forgotten.

In a recent article Lilian Whiting writes:

The world is fast approaching the plane whereon the higher forces of nature hold sway. The old order changeth. All the materials of life are to be more swift, more subtle, more responsive. The slow and clumsy processes of the past are rapidly fading away and the finer forces take their place. We do not now fill lamps, or even strike matches and light the gas; we turn the key, and presto! the room is flooded with electric light. The time is close at hand when the endless manual labor of a great correspondence will be superseded by thought transference. The steam engine gives place to the electric motor.

If this be true upon the physical side of life, why should it not be true upon the mental and the spiritual side? It must be, because it is an evolutionary necessity. The man or woman who is trying to live a life of love and service, even if its expression, because of circumstances, seems limited in the outer world, is bringing into use the forces from a higher plane and gaining, albeit unconsciously, a strength and power which will enter into the future and make it infinitely better worth living.

It is the high ideal held fast in our hearts, governing our thoughts which are powerful in proportion to the will-power with which they are winged, and ruling our actions, that sets free "the swifter, the more subtle" forces that will help us to reach the better things which lie within our grasp, though, as yet, we see them not, or are but dimly conscious of their presence.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

OUR COSY CORNER.

OLD WINTER'S COLD MAKES HOME FIRESIDES PLEASANT.

Let Us Gather Together and Talk Matters Over—Keep Hopeful and Courageous.

It is encouraging to the correspondents of the Cozy Corner to know that they have, by their letters, helped some one, and now at the beginning of the year we have these cheering words from "A Mother:"

I thought I would come in this evening to teil you how your kindly advice and words of encouragement have been an inspiration to me, when the cares of life weighed heavily upon me, that I almost felt crushed beneath the load. But after reading the cheery letters of the Cozy Corner, I take up my work with renewed zeal.

I do all my own work, cooking, washing, sewing, etc., for a family of eight, and consequently have little time for pleasure or amusement outside the home circle. I am very anxious that my children may receive proper home training, but often feel my inability to give it to them from lack of time or forethought. If there is a periodical published for the help of parents in the rearing of their families, I wish Miss Bouton or some of the friends would inform me, through the columns of the Blade, where and by whom published, and confer a great favor.

Joy comes in for a minute with a little bit of a description of her home:

To our editor and sisters of the Cozy Corner, a merry Christmas and happy New Year! I am wondering what you are all doing, as I sit alone this Christmas eve. I can hardly realize we are in the midst of winter, for our fall has been so pleasant up to this time. Yesterday was comfortable without fire, as many of our days have been. This little valley some twelve miles long is on the southern slope of the Ozark mountains, where we get so much warm sunshine, sufficient to bring up the grass and pretty bright clover. This reminds me, sisters, did you ever find or go hunting four-leaf clovers, the finding of which, the old adage says, "brings good luck?" Whether this is true or not, one surely feels quite enthusiastic when finding one.

Now that the holidays are over, we must come down to the every day life again, to the making and mending and all the numerous things that make up the life of the wife and mother. To those who have "little lads" to dress, these words from Dale DeForest will be very welcome:

Once I thought it much easier to dress a little girl between the ages of three and six years than a boy; but that was when kilts were the indispensable link connecting baby dresses and pants. Now, when one may take the little lad out of his white Mother Hubbards and put him into the cute little knee pants, or Brownie overalls, it is quite different.

How proud they are of their little suits! And what dear little Brownie-folk they make! How they romp and enjoy themselves when freed from the incumbrance of skirts clinging about their little limbs.

Now, I know a great many dear, economical mothers manage to cut the small jackets and pants from the best of papa's or uncle's old suit. But one must be careful, have a good pattern and press thoroughly, or these will have a botchy look. They only take a good-sized scrap of material for, by actual measurement, the inner seam of one miniature pair of pants that I saw recently was but 12 inches long. Of course, the length of the garment depends upon the size of the little man, but it costs very little to dress him comfortably and neatly.

Three pair of the Brownie overalls with apron front and straps fastening over the shoulders can be had for $1 or 35 cents per pair. These will do him for rough and ready play for six months, and being long they save the hose so much. Very pretty wash suits may be had for one dollar and even cheaper, but I got a good quality of duck nicely trimmed with braid and buttons for one dollar.

Unless one lives near a city where she may take advantage of the special sales, I think it pays to make the fancy blouse waists or hire it done, for one can get the material for 50 cents each, and get them made for 40 cents each, while I found none as nice for sale, at regular prices, for less than $1.25.

I pay 15 cents per pair for everyday hose and 25 cents for his best. From past experience I do not put any confidence in shoes that sell under one dollar, for our sturdy little son takes many a step during the day. Shoes makes the highest item in his clothing.

A broad-brimmed hat that sets down well on the head and does not need elastic or strings to hold it on, is just the thing for play. A tam-o-shanter or cap for best wear.

It pays to make his neckties. Buy a half-yard of silk, cut on the bias; it will make five neat Windsor ties, and one can get as good quality of silk as is generally used for 60 cents per yard, making the ties cost but six cents each. Hem then all around narrowly on the machine.

I think it best to make his everday handkerchiefs out of soft, white cotton. They cost a mere trifle, take only a few minutes to make, and one does not feel so provoked when the little man loses them, as he is sure to do.

A friend from Indiana who wishes her name withheld, sends us two poems, asking that they be published for the benefit of others who may enjoy them as much as the writer has. They are certainly very beautiful and the editor thanks the lady for them, but they are so long that it would be quite impossible to re-print them in this department. If our friend wishes them returned they will be carefuly cared for until she sends a stamped envelope.

Ignorance, writes thus: If a person receives an invitation to an Alumni banquet, addressed to herself and friend, is it necessary to write a note of acceptance? If so, should she give her friend's name? Should the note be directed to the people at whose house the banquet is held?

The person receiving such an invitation should answer it immediately, either accepting or declining. This is necessary in order that the entertainment committee may know, approximately at least, for how many they are to prepare. The answer should be sent in the name of the person receiving it, and for all parties included in the invitation, and should be addressed to the person whose name was signed to the invitation, whether it was the prospective hostess, or a member of a committee.

W. H. asks "what the column called the Merry-Go-Round is.

It is that part of the Household page of The Blade that is devoted more especially to the interests of the young people, and is intended to be made up of letters on various subjects that will be helpful to those who read them, from members of the M. G. R. Any person who is a paid-up subscriber to The Blade for the current year, or in whose family a copy of The Blade is taken, can become a member of this department by accepting and living up to the motto: To do all the good you can; in all the ways you can; to all the people you can. The object is: Improvement, mental, moral and social. There is a very pretty badge made expressly for The Blade Merry-Go-Rounds, which can be obtained at this office for 50 cents. There are no dues, fines, or anything of the kind.

The editor of this department wishes to say to the officers of societies, unions, etc., that their communications should not be sent to the Household editor, but to the editor of the Society page, unless they wish them to be noticed elsewhere in the paper, in which case mention of the fact should be made in sending the notices. This will explain to certain Toledo societies why their reports have not appeared in The Blade. They were addressed to the Household editor and not discovered in time to have them published.

Another thing that should be remembered in this connection is that all notices, or reports, of such meetings must be signed by some person authorized to send them, or no notice will be taken of them.

Mrs. N. W. M. asks for something to prevent the ravages of the Buffalo moth and the quick running, silver moths.

If Mrs. R. M. J. Hall will send the date of the copy of The Blade containing the information she desires, the paper will be sent her, but the editor has no recollection of the article referred to.

"When we give up a place of service because it proves to be a place of pain, then we prove ourselves unworthy to serve."—E. W. H.

THE COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

A Letter From One Calling Herself a Martyr to Science.

Among the Cook's correspondence this week is a letter, signed "A Martyr to Science," who asks to be heard for the sake of very many housekeepers who, she is certain, feel as she does in the matter of scientific discoveries. As she seems to be very much in earnest, her letter is given:

I wish to protest against this universal habit that all "reformers" seem to have fallen into of continually telling people of the dreadful things they eat, or drink. One cannot take up a paper without finding a description of some new "microbe" that is a part of our daily meat and drink, or that we draw by millions into our lungs, with every breath. We cannot take any comfort in eating our bread, even though it be earned by the sweat of our brow, because we are so constantly reminded of the "yeast plant" that must grow and decay, in order to produce this bread.

We are reminded most unpleasantly, of the fearful possibilities that are due when the servant girl does not pay sufficient attention to her hands and finger nails, and we know how utterly impossible it is for us to impress this fact upon her mind, and that she, in spite of our entreaties and explanations, will go on in her own way, with a heart hardened to callousness as to our fate from the presence of microbes, per consequence of her neglect to use her manicure set.

Not only are we warned against these things, but we must forbid our faithful dog from showing his honest affection by licking our hand, because, though his daily bath may remove any offensive odor and prove a preventive of the agile flea, it does not affect the deadly microbe that will transfer itself with great ease from his tongue to our hand.

I think there are very few women who do not approve of, and attempt, perfect cleanliness in their housework, but it is absolutely impossible for anyone in common, every day households, to attain such a degree of neatness as our friends, the lecturers, tell us is absolutely necessary in order that we may live. Our parents, for generations before us, lived and were a wholesome, healthy lot of people, and they never, many of them, as much as knew what the word "microbe" meant, much less, of all they were suffering from it.

With a professor of chemistry, or a cooking school lecturer, who gives his or her whole time to experimenting, and deals only with "samples" of earth, air and water, fish, flesh and fowl, it may answer to say what we should do that we may be saved from the dire effects of using what has been pronounced [illegible] by such authority. But for the rank and file of housekeepers, who have not the time, and can not make the garments for the little man,

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

BOIES PENROSE

Will Be the New Senator From Pennsylvania.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 6.—The contest for succession to the seat in the United States Senate occupied by J. Donald Cameron, which has kept the people of the state in a fever heat for many days, was finally settled last night in the joint caucus of the Republican members of the legislature who chose State Senator Boies Penrose, of Philadelphia, as

BOIES PENROSE.
Will Succeed J. Donald Cameron in the Senate.

the man upon whom the honor shall be bestowed. Of the 215 Republicans in the legislature 211 were present and voting. Of these votes Penrose received 153; ex-Postmaster General John Wanamaker, 75; Senator Cameron, 1; Congressman John B. Robinson, 1, and Superior Court Judge Charles E. Rice, of Wilkesbarre, 1.

Even while the death knell of his senatorial aspirations was being sounded, Mr. Wanamaker was planning to continue the fight against Senator Quay in the state. At a big meeting of his supporters, Mr. Wanamaker made a speech in which he declared his intention of carrying the fight against Senator Quay into every county and to contest with him the right to name the party candidates for state treasurer and auditor general.

Boies Penrose was born in Philadelphia, November 1, 1860. He was elected to the state House of Representatives from the Eighth district in 1885, and to the Senate one year later, and has been re-elected since, being still a member of that body. Two years ago Senator Penrose was a candidate for the office of mayor of Philadelphia, and was the apparent choice of the Republican ward "combine," headed by David Martin. Within 24 hours of the convention, however, he was dropped by that body, and Charles F. Warwick, the present mayor, chosen in his stead. This precipitated the bitter fight which has since waged between Martin and Senator Quay, who has been Penrose's sponsor, and it was only a few days after the convention mentioned that Senator Quay made his well-remembered speech on the floor of the United States Senate attacking Mr. Martin.

MONTANA.

First Populist Message From a Governor of the State.

Helena, Mont., Jan. 6.—Governor Smith's first message to the legislature was read yesterday. Throughout the reading there were frequent outbursts of applause. The message was looked forward to with more than passing interest, as Governor Smith is the first Populist governor elected in Montana.

SETTING THE LIMIT.

Bill to Limit Sky Scrapers in New York.

New York, Jan. 6.—A bill is about to be introduced in the state legislature limiting the height of buildings to 175 feet. It will have the indorsement of the city authorities of New York, and will probably be passed. The fire department, the board of public works, and the real estate men are opposed to sky-scrapers.

Plans for a thirty-story structure are on file in the office of Superintendent Constable, of the building department.

TOO MANY BANKS.

The Supply is Entirely Too Great for Good Business.

Topeka, Kas., Jan. 6.—State Bank Commissioner John W. Breidenthal predicts the number of Kansas banking institutions will decrease materially within the next two years, if not be cut in two. He says there are too many banks in Kansas now for the amount of business transacted, and he is advising consolidation in every place where it is feasible. It is simply a question of time whether many of these institutions shall go into voluntary liquidation or be forced to suspend," said the commissioner, "and in order to prevent the latter, I have advised a general consolidation all over the state, and especially in the smaller towns." The over supply of banks came into existence during the booms.

PLENTY OF CASH.

Millions in Coin in the San Francisco Sub-Treasury.

San Francisco, Jan. 6.—There was $40,128,646.36 in the United States subtreasury at San Francisco at the close of business on the last day of last year, as shown by the report of the assistant United States treasurer, C. P. Perry. Of this, by far the largest part was in coin, $10,656,343 being gold, and $24,990,598 standard silver dollars. Of the paper money, $2,336,693 was in silver certificates. There was $296,300 in gold certificates and the balance was in United States notes, treasury notes of 1890, national bank notes and subsidiary and minor coins. The shipments of silver coin during the month of December were $182,330, most of it in standard silver dollars. There was a decrease during the month in cash on hand of $419,966.

MARTHA WASHINGTON.

Her Wedding Anniversary Commemorated by a Banquet.

New York, Jan. 6.—It is one hundred and thirty-eight years to-day since George Washington, fresh from the laurels gained as commander-in-chief of the Virginia forces that a short time before had captured Fort Duquesne, took to himself a wife in the person of the widow, Martha Custis, whose maiden name was Dandridge, whose first husband was John Parke Custis, and who has since been known to history as Martha Washington.

This afternoon, in commemoration of the anniversary, the New York chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution gave a reception at Sherry's, at which historical addresses relating to Martha Washington, interspersed with patriotic music, formed the programme.

WESLEY'S CHURCH.

American Methodists Will Be Asked to Contribute.

London, Jan. 7.—Twenty thousand dollars is the amount that the Methodists of the United States and Canada are to be asked to contribute towards the fund for restoring the mother church of Methodism in this city, and for erecting a memorial over the grave of John Wesley, the illustrious founder of Methodism.

When the centennary of Wesley's death was commemorated a few years since, there was subscribed the sum of $80,000 by people in this country towards the rebuilding of the church in City Road. This fund has now been exhausted, and the Rev. W. J. Brown, the minister in charge of Wesley's chapel, has been delegated to visit the United States and Canada, with a view of securing from the Methodists of the New World enough money to complete the memorials.

The Little Filibustering Steamer Libeled Again.

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 6.—It is likely that J. M. Barrs, attorney for the owners of the Three Friends, the Cuban filibuster; Capt. H. T. Lewis, commander; John Dunn, engineer; Capt. John O'Brien, the veteran filibuster, and J. A. Huan and Henry P. Fritot, agents of the Cuban junta here, will be prosecuted by the United States government on a charge of piracy. Such a prosecution is foreshadowed in a libel which was filed to-day against the Three Friends by United States District Attorney Frank Clark.

The libel is based on the expedition which the Three Friends took on December 14, and which failing to land the filibuster marooned on No Name Key, near Key West. While trying to land the expedition, it is said the Three Friends used two 12-pound Hotchkiss guns against pursuing Spanish gunboats. It is charged that the men named mounted the guns and provided shells and shot therefor for the purpose of making war on the king of Spain. All through the document the Three Friends is referred to as an "armed cruiser" fitted out by the men named, for the purpose of making war on Spain in the interest of the Cuban insurgents.

This is the first time names have been used in any libel filed against the Three Friends. The present libel also differs from previous ones in that the violation of no particular section of the United States revised statutes is specified. Attorneys here think the libel was drawn under Secretary Olney's instructions, and assert that its terms foreshadow the prosecution of the men named on a charge of piracy.

That the government will push the case is evident from the fact that five newspaper correspondents who have written much about the Three Friends have been subpoenaed to appear before the United States grand jury to-morrow to tell what they know about the vessel's last trip.

WHICH SHALL HAVE IT?

Progress of That California Harbor Contest.

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 7.—The deep water harbor commissioners and the Southern Pacific and Terminal engineers are busily engaged in inspecting granite quarries. First the commissioners were taken by the Southern Pacific officials to the Declese quarries at Colton. Then under the same auspices they went up to Chatsworth Pass, where suitable granite is said to be found. Santa Fe officials think they have quarries on their line that the committee ought to see and on Friday they will be inspected. Then General Manager Hines, of the Terminal railway, heard that granite was needed, and went out with a team, found a quarry, bought it, secured the right of way for a branch road to the quarry and is now laying a track to it. It is very close to San Pedro, and superior to most Southern California granite.

SKYSCRAPER SOLD.

The Syndicate Building in New York Brought $2,508,291.58.

New York, Jan. 6.—The most valuable piece of real estate ever offered at auction in this city was sold Monday. The property was the new fifteen-story sky scraper, the Syndicate Building, at the southwest corner of Nassau and Liberty streets. It was sold under foreclosure of fourth mortgage of $900,000, subject to the prior mortgages aggregating $2,000,000. The mortgage was held by Benjamin H. Losey, as trustee for the members of the Syndicate Realty Company, the carpenter, mason and plumber, who furnished the material for the construction of the building. John W. Golding, for a client whose name he would not give, bought the building for $2,508,291.58.

MILITIA ORDERED OUT.

Governor Bradley Determined to Stop Toll Gate Raids.

Lexington, Ky., Jan. 6.—Rewards aggregating $2,500 having failed to have any effect in lessening the depredations of toll gate raiders who for some time have been running things in high-handed fashion in several Kentucky counties, Governor Bradley has concluded to see what the militia can do toward preserving order.

On orders received from the governor Company I, of the Kentucky State Guards, left for Mercer county where it is expected a company of toll gate raiders 200 strong are planning to make a clean sweep of the objectionable obstructions within the next 24 hours. Col. E. H. Gaither is in command.

NORTH DAKOTA.

Sad Inauguration Day for the New Governor.

Bismarck, N. D., Jan. 6.—Governor Frank Briggs took the oath of office yesterday. A peculiarly sad coincidence in connection with the inauguration was the fact that while the oath of office was being administered the governor received a telegram announcing the death of his eldest daughter, Stella, at Minneapolis. Mr. Briggs left at once for Minneapolis.

The fifth legislative assembly convened at noon and organized, E. A. Williams, of Burleigh, being chosen speaker of the House.

MINNESOTA.

New Administration Takes Hold Very Quietly.

St. Paul, Jan. 6.—Both houses of the legislature organized yesterday, J. G. Jones being speaker of the House. The state officers have no set time for being sworn in, taking their oaths of office with the secretary of state at any time after receiving their certificates of election.

Governor D. M. Clough's message was read before the two houses of the legislature at 11 o'clock to-day in joint session. It was very voluminous and goes into details of all the workings of the various departments of the state.

ILLINOIS.

Has a Legislature That Will Be Very Lively.

Springfield, Ill., Jan. 6.—The indications are that before many weeks the legislature that convened to-day will be attracting the attention of political and social observers throughout the United States. Both houses are overwhelmingly Republican, the Democrats having but 78 votes on joint ballot, against 125 for their opponents. There are three Populist members, two in the House and one in the Senate, and also one Independent member of the lower house. With a substantial majority to do its bidding, the Chicago machine has decided to carry things with a high hand. Not only, according to the programme, is Martin Madden, the notorious ward politician, to be elected Senator to succeed John M. Palmer, but it has also been decided that the machine shall take entire control of the legislation, and that no bills are to be passed that have not received the sanction of a sub-committee of the machine.

MISSOURI.

Senator Vest Will Have No Opposition for Re-Election.

Jefferson City, Mo., Jan. 6.—The legislature that met to-day will re-elect United States Senator George G. Vest to succeed himself for a fourth term. There is no opposition to him in the ranks of his own party. Senator Cockrell is also in the midst of his fourth term, and it is understood will not be a candidate for re-election again. It is an interesting fact that only once in the history of Missouri has one man been elected Senator five times. This was Thomas H. Benton, who sat in the Senate for 30 years.

The legislature will be asked to create a state board of charities and correction to supervise the charitable and criminal institutions of the state, to inaugurate feasible plans for the improvement of public roads, and to pass a law utilizing the labor of able-bodied unfortunates and providing for the control of tramps, paupers and youthful dependents.

Mrs. Lease's House Sold.

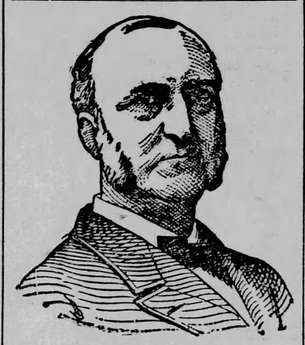
Wichita, Kas., Jan. 6.—Mrs. Lease's house was sold to-day at sheriff's sale for $600. It cost about $3,000. It was bought in by J. Marsh, an Eastern mortgagee.

ALBANY CELEBRATES.

New York Capital Has a Centennial Jubilee.

New York, Jan. 6.—The one hundredth aniversary of the commencement of the sessions of the legislature in this city was appropriately observed today. Prior to January, 1797, the legislature met alternately at Poughkeepsie and Albany, but commencing on January 3 of that year the Capital City has been the permanent meeting place of the law-makers of the Empire state.

As the proper anniversary fell on Sunday, and as to-day is the date appointed for the assembling of the legislature the celebration was timed accordingly. The city is gaily decorated and crowded with visitors. There was a grand parade this morning, composed of political and civic organizations, and which started from the foot of State



CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW.

street and passed through the principal thoroughfares.

The formal exercises took place after dinner in Harmanus Bleecker Hall, into which an audience of over three thousand people had packed themselves. The proceedings were inaugurated with the singing of the national anthem. Ex-Governor Morton presided at the beginning of the exercises, and then gave way to Gov. Frank S. Black. The oration was delivered by Chauncey M. Depew, and W. H. McElroy read a poem commemorative of the event.

On the platform were seated a number of ex-governors and ex-lieutenant governors, members and ex-members of the legislature, Mayor Strong, of New York City, and other high officials of the state.

The climax of the celebration will be reached to-night, when there will be a procession and grand display of fireworks and a brilliant ball at the Tenth battalion. In the fireworks display will be illustrated the three capitals in which the legislature has met for a century. First will be seen the original capital of 1797, then the next one and finally the present magnificent structure.

CALIFORNIA.

Perkins Will Be Sent to the United States Senate.

Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 6.—George C. Perkins was declared nominee for United States Senator by the joint Republican caucus last night. Twenty-three Senators and 36 assemblymen went into the caucus and Perkins received 60 votes. He needs but one vote to elect and that is said to be sure.

BLISS CANNOT TALK.

Pumped About His Cleveland Visit He Says He is Dumb.

New York, Jan. 7.—Cornelius N. Bliss is home from his Western trip, the feature of which was an interview by appointment with President-elect McKinley at Cleveland. Mr. Bliss was asked if it were true that he had been tendered and had accepted the navy portfolio, but replied:

"My lips are sealed as to what passed between Mr. McKinley and myself. Further than to tell you that we talked of various matters, and that we had a very pleasant time together, I can say nothing of our conversation."

PHOTOGRAPHIC COUNTERFEITS.

Government Officers Gradually Corralling the Makers.

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 6.—United States secret service officers have arrested Al Soper, the third man charged with implication in the forgeries of notes of the National Bank of Commerce of New York, and the Union National Bank of Detroit.

Detective Burns said to-day that a large amount of photographic counterfeit money is in circulation all over the United States. He says the process was first employed about two years ago, and it has steadily improved in character until it has become very dangerous.

"Before we get through with this case," said he, "we will have a big sensation for you. You can rest assured of that?"

M'KINLEY'S NEW SUIT.

Cleveland Tailor Making the Clothes for Inauguration.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 7.—Henry Koebel, a local tailor, will commence work on Major McKinley's inauguration suit in a few days. It will be of black vicuna worsted, and the goods was a present to the major by the Hockanum Woolen company of Rockville, Conn. The original piece was ready two weeks ago, and the present delay has been occasioned by the fact that another piece had to be especially manufactured, as the tailor insisted on having it of extra width.

This was necessitated by the fact that the major is quite a stout man, and Mr. Koebel is ashed to have no pieces in the skirt of the coat.

"Mr. McKinley is the easiest man to fit with whom I ever had any experience," says the tailor.

THE TONNAGE TAX.

President's Proclamation Put Into Effect at Boston.

Boston, Jan. 7.—The first German ship to be subjected at this port to the tax of 6 cents a ton on her cargo, in conformity with the proclamation issued by President Cleveland December 3 last, is the steamer Cheruskia, Captain Schlaeker, which arrived Tuesday from Hamburg.

The tax is levied on the net tonnage of the steamer until the sum of 30 cents has been paid in one year, which, of course, makes the vessel free from the tax after she makes her fifth voyage in the same year. The net tonnage of the Cheruskia is 2,097, making her tax, which she paid into the custom house $125.82.

By a treaty approved January 26, 1888, this tax was revoked on condition that the same privilege be accorded American vessels in German ports. It transpired, however, that though the imperial government was carrying out the contract, some of the ports in Germany were imposing a tax which amounted in the end to the same as the tonnage tax. President Cleveland therefore revoked his proclamation made in 1888, suspending the tonnage tax.

THE CREEDE FAMILY.

The Millionaire and His Wife Do Not Agree.

Los Angeles, Jan. 8.—W. C. Creede, the millionaire miner, whom the town of Creede, Col., is named for, and his wife, have separated and agreed to dissolve at once, as far as possible without legal process, the marital bonds. A stipulation was drawn up and signed several days ago by which Mrs. Creede accepted $20,000 cash in hand and surrendered all further claim upon her husband, at the same time voluntarily withdrawing from his home in this city.

After the necessary period of time has elapsed Mr. Creede will institute proceedings and begin suit for absolute divorce on the grounds of desertion, that being part of the agreement. Mr. Creede gave as a reason for the separation that he and his wife were uncompanionable and a separation was courted by both.

Several months ago Mr. and Mrs. Creede adopted the infant daughter of Edith Walters Walker, the actress, who was deserted by her husband. Mr. Creede will continue to care for the child, as his wife said she did not care to be bothered with her.

NEW YORK VOTES.

Work of the Several Electoral Colleges Monday.

The following table shows how the electoral votes of the states were cast at the meetings of the Electoral Colleges Monday:

ELECTORAL VOTES FOR M'KINLEY

California	8
Connecticut	6
Delaware	3
Illinois	24
Indiana	15
Iowa	13
Kentucky	12
Maine	6
Maryland	8
Massachusetts	15
Michigan	14
Minnesota	9
New Jersey	10
New Hampshire	4
New York	36
North Dakota	3
Ohio	23
Oregon	4
Pennsylvania	32
Rhode Island	4
Vermont	4
West Virginia	6
Wisconsin	12
Total McKinley Vote in Electoral College	271
Necessary to Elect	224

ELECTORAL VOTES FOR BRYAN.

Alabama	11
Arkansas	8
California	1
Colorado	4
Florida	4
Georgia	13
Idaho	3
Kansas	10
Kentucky	1
Louisiana	8
Mississippi	9
Missouri	17
Montana	3
Nebraska	8
North Carolina	11
Nevada	3
South Carolina	9
South Dakota	4
Texas	15
Tennessee	12
Washington	4
Virginia	12
Utah	3
Wyoming	3
Total Bryan Vote in Electoral College	176

In North Carolina Sewall received 6 votes and Watson 5. In Utah Sewall received 2 votes and Watson 1. In Missouri 13 votes were cast for Sewall and 4 for Watson. In Nebraska Sewall received 8 and Watson 4. Arkansas voted 5 for Sewall and 3 for Watson. In Louisiana Sewall and Watson each received 4 votes. In Montana Sewall received 2 votes and Watson 1.

TRUSTS IN GEORGIA.

State Law Against Them Has Been Very Effective.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 8.—The Journal makes the sensational announcement that every trust operating in the state of Georgia has succumbed to the Calvin anti-trust law enacted by the recent General Assembly. As a result of the operation of that measure, the American Tobacco Company, the Potash trust, the Snuff trust, the Coffee trust, the Match and other trusts, that have been operating in Georgia, have notified jobbers and merchants throughout the state handling their goods that the anti-trust act made their existing contracts unlawful, and they would, therefore, no longer be considered by either party. This throws the long closed market wide open to competition.

ORE IN THE DEPTHS.

Sensational Gold Find Made in California.

San Francisco, Jan. 7.—The mining world has been set by the ears by the developments in the Kennedy mine in Grass Valley within the past few days. At perpendicular depth of over 2,100 feet a body of rich ore, fully 30 feet in width, has been discovered. In magnitude the ore body will compare favorably with any yet found, and the great depth at which it lies explodes a long cherished and heretofore believed infallible tradition of the search for gold on the Pacific coast.

It is an old theory, which age has almost crystallized into a formula, that gold ore disappears after a certain depth has been attained. This is a creed of every old prospector from the Yukon to the Panama isthmus. The developments in the Kennedy not only topples over this old-time belief, but may lead to a revolution in mining in this state, for the deeper progress is made in the Kennedy the wider grows the ore body.

BRICE AND CHINA.

Report That He is Figuring on a Railroad Monopoly.

New York, Jan. 7.—Senator Calvin S. Brice, at the head of a close syndicate of United States officeholders and capitalists, has nearly concluded arrangements for the establishment of a monopoly of the railroad, telephone and telegraphic systems of China.

Ex-United States Senator Washburn, of Minnesota, and Clarence Cary, an attorney of 59 Wall street, this city, are now in China as representatives of the syndicate. With them is Mr. Bach, a promoter, formerly living in Washington, but who for some years has been in China, where he has great influence with the officials of the government.

The preliminary arrangements have been made with the utmost secrecy and only the most intimate friends of Mr. Cary and ex-Senator Washburn were told of their destination when the two men left the city just before Thanksgiving day. Even up to to-day the secret was jealously guarded. The first negotiations for this huge monopoly were made when Li Hung Chang was in this country last summer.

A FLYING MACHINE.

Another Model Being Tested at Pittsburg.

Pittsburg, Jan. 7.—Yesterday Charles D Deforrest, a local inventor, who has been working for several years on a flying machine, made a practical test of a model.

The latter is shaped like an eagle or hawk. The inventor filled it with gas, and after attaching a rope to it, allowed it to soar through the air. If the machine works as good as the model, the inventor says he will possess the great secret of aerial navigation.

The machine Mr. Deforrest is building, and which looks like a gigantic bird, is 18 feet long. It has wings, legs and a tail. The wings are 18 feet long by four feet wide. They will be operated from a cab under the bird's body. Forty-five gallons of gasoline will be carried to operate the engine, which will be of four-horse power.

The legs will be steel coils six feet long, and will act like a spring in leaving and touching the earth. The tail will act like a rudder of a boat. The bird will be made of aluminum and is expected to go through the air at the rate of 30 miles per hour.

NAVAL ACTIVITY.

Battleships and Cruisers Being Hastily Prepared for Sea.

New York, Jan. 7.—Never in the history of the navy yard has there been as much activity as at present. The work of making the repairs to the vessels now moored there is being hurried with all possible speed. Men from the construction and engineering departments are kept at work day and night on the vessels. The ships undergoing repairs are the battleships Massachusetts and Texas, the cruisers Marblehead, Montgomery and Columbia, the monitor Terror and the torpedo boat Ericsson. The Marblehead is now in the timber dry dock being overhauled. An extra gang of men was put to work on the outside of the vessel yesterday, getting her ready to be floated out of the dock to-day. A gang of men from the construction department was put to work preparing the keel blocks and shoring trucks of the dock for the reception of the cruiser Columbia, which will be floated into the dock as soon as the Marblehead has been taken out. Orders have been received to have the cruisers Marblehead and Montgomery ready to sail this week. The Montgomery will leave the yard Saturday and the Marblehead Monday. Both vessels will go south to join the ships now watching for filibusters off the coast of Florida.

FORGER.

FOR CRIMINAL LIBEL.

Eight Months' Imprisonment for Lady Selina Scott.

London, Jan. 8.—Lady Selina Scott, the mother-in-law of Earl Russell, who through counsel, pleaded guilty yesterday in the central Criminal Court of criminally libeling his lordship in conjunction with John Cockerton, an en-

LADY SCOTT.

gineer, and William Aylott, a valet, was sentenced this morning to eight months' imprisonment without hard labor. Cockerton and Aylott, who also pleaded guilty yesterday, received similar sentences to-day.

Lady Scott, accompanied by her daughter, Countess Russell, entered the court room at an early hour. They were both stylishly dressed in black, and, pending the opening of court walked up and down the corridor, the daughter having an arm around her mother's waist. Both ladies were painfully nervous, and Lady Scott was heard to remark: "I do not dread going to prison, but I feel the injustice of the way I have been treated."

WAR INEITABLE.

French Government Believes That It Must Come.

Paris, Jan. 6.—The Petite Republique says that the government has no faith in the duration of peace, as evidenced by the fact that it has addressed to the officers on the frontier a series of special questions relative to the eventual mobilization of the forces.

THE PLAGUE IN INDIA.

Thousands of People Leave the City of Bombay.

Bombay, Jan. 6.—The mill operatives and their families are quitting the city en masse, thus adding a quarter of a million unemployed to the country districts. It is now estimated that 325,000 persons have fled from the city, as a result of the spread of the bubonic plague, scattering contagion in the villages in the country.

CECIL RHODES.

Does Not Seem to Care for Peace in Africa.

London, Jan. 6.—Later reports received here in regard to the banquet recently given at Cape Town to Col. Cecil Rhodes, ex-premier of Cape Colony, show that it resulted in a scene of notable enthusiasm. The text of the speech in which Col. Rhodes asserted that the paramount idea is expansion, that the world's surface is limited, and that therefore the best policy is to take as much of that surface as you possibly can, has created a sensation in London, where, even his best friends, regard the proceedings of Col. Rhodes with misgiving and fear that he is inflaming passions which will lead to further troubles. Those interested in South Africa generally condemn the different attitude which Col. Rhodes seems to have assumed instead of co-operating with the government and undoing the mischief resulting from the raid into the Transvaal.

RUSSIAN LOANS.

Negotiating Loans for Immense Sums of Money.

Berlin, Jan. 6.—Leading Berlin banking firms concur in crediting the report that the Russian government has been negotiating a new loan in Paris amounting to no less than 600,000,000 marks (£12 marks make £1). Private advices from St. Petersburg supported by letters from Paris, at first negotiated 800,000,000 marks, and adds that the French bankers had refused to consider terms on the ground that France was overloaded with Russian loans; that part of the last loan had not yet been absorbed by the public; and, further, that under the conditions of that loan Russia was debarred from raising another before April, 1897.

Some tentative action toward negotiating with Berlin and Frankfort houses has been going on since the reluctance of the French bankers to deal became known at St. Petersburg, but these overtures were not received favorably, so the Russian finance minister has resumed communication with Paris firms. The loan, if obtained soon after April, will be the prelude to the resumption of special payments on the gold standard by Russia, provided nothing happens in Europe to endanger the Czar's present peace policy.

AT A HOLY PLACE.

Worshippers Fight Over Precedence at Jerusalem.

Constantinople, Jan. 11.—Official advices received here from Jerusalem show that there has been further trouble among the worshipers at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. It appears that the Roman Catholics were opposed to members of the orthodox Greek church entering the church by a certain door on the eve of January 6th, the day observed by the orthodox church as Christmas.

The latter insisted upon their right to enter, and the result was that the two factions became involved in a serious fight which did not end until the Turkish authorities intervened to restore order.

Some of the combatants were badly injured, but it is not known whether anybody was killed.

The sultan has conferred upon the Armenian patriarch Osmanian, the grand cross of the order of Medjidie. The cross was presented to Osmanian by an aide de camp in full uniform who waited on him for the purpose at his house in Pera.

ABDUL HAMID WEAKENS.

Italian Ambassador Humiliates the Sultan.

London, Jan. 11.—A dispatch from Constantinople to the Standard says that rumors of massacre of Christians at Trebizond which originated by the statement that an Italian gunboat had been ordered thither, are untrue. It appears that an Italian subject named Marani, was secretly shipped at Trebizond for exile to Erzeroum. The Italian ambassador demanded the immediate return of Marani to Constantinople for proper trial, and threatened to send gunboats, till the porte gave a written promise of compliance.

The incident has caused a sensation at Constantinople on account of the belief that Italy was backed by the powers.

A dispatch to the Daily News from Rome on the same subject says: "Everybody remarks that the sultan has never had such a humiliation as for an ambassador to openly refuse to accept his promise, but of to insist upon a written confirmation.

IVORY

Was Made the Tool of Unscrupulous Men.

London, Jan. 9.—Intense anxiety is manifested in Irish circles concerning the probable fate of Edward J. Ivory, the new dynamite suspect; who will be brought to trial next week. As the indictment had already been found, there will be no preliminary delay. Although an eminent array of counsel has been engaged in his behalf, the net has been so closely woven around the unfortunate man by the New York traitors and spies of whom he is the victim, that there is not a shadow of doubt of his conviction.

Ivory is now said to be convinced that he has been made the tool of a number of so-called representative Irishmen in America, who think nothing of wrecking a life so that they may have fresh material for demagogic proclamations concerning the hatred of the British people for the Irish.

There is absolutely no question but that Ivory was betrayed to the British detectives by the very men in New York and Brooklyn who induced him to undertake the so-called mission.

Ivory may get off with ten years, but he is more likely to get twenty-five. Extraordinary precautions will be taken to insure the safety of Jones, the spy, upon whose evidence the case against Ivory mainly rests. He has been in strict seclusion since the police court proceedings, and will be kept at Scotland Yard during the forthcoming trial, being escorted to and from the court every day by an armed and mounted guard.

ELABORATE CEREMONY.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is Enthroned.

London, Jan. 8.—In the presence of a large and brilliant congregation, and with all the elaborate ceremonial of the faith, Rt. Rev. Frederick K. Temple, formerly bishop of London, was to-day enthroned in Canterbury Cathedral as Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of all England. Admission to the vast precincts of the sacred edifice was by ticket, and as a consequence the representatives of the "masses" were afforded no opportunity of witnessing the ceremonies attending the elevation to the chief place in the English church of the meek and lowly follower of the apostles. It was a decidedly official and aristocratic congregation, the cabinet and the various branches of the government be-

DR. FREDERICK TEMPLE.

ing well represented, while dukes and duchesses, earls and countesses, and so on through the list of the peerage, were out in full force; many of the costumes of the ladies being magnificent.

The services were opened with the usual procession of cross-bearers and members of the choir, followed by the bishops and assistant bishops from every diocese in the country, these in turn followed by the deans and minor clergy, until nearly 1,000 members of the cloth, in their spotless vestments, were gathered within the sanctuary.

The regular service of the Episcopal church was then proceeded with as far as the prayers for the Queen. Then the certificates or testimonials of the election were read. The consecration and laying on of hands followed.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies, proclamation of the election and enthronement was made by Canon Farrar, and who announced to the "Metropolitical Church of Christ" that the Right Honorable and Right Reverend Father in God, Dr. Frederick Temple, being a man provident and discreet, deservedly well esteemed for his learning, good life and morals, of liberal condition, born of lawful marriage, of fit and lawful age, of great circumspection in spiritual and temporal affairs, and who was willing and able to maintain the rights and privileges of the church, had been elected and enthroned as Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of all England.

Ecclesiastical England, including Wales, is divided into two great provinces, each ruled over by an archbishop. The larger province, with 23 dioceses, has its seat at Canterbury, the capital of the ancient kingdom of Kent; the smaller, with only nine dioceses, at York, the capital of Northumbria. The Archbishop of Canterbury has always held pre-eminent and universal authority over the whole kingdom. This pre-eminence is marked in the titles which the respective archbishops assume. Both are primates. But the Archbishop of York is simply called Primate of England. The Archbishop of Canterbury, on the other hand, is Primate of All England. It is also indicated by their relative rights of precedence The Archbishop of Canterbury had precedence over all the nobility save those of royal blood, the Lord Chancellor comes next and then the Archbishop of York.

Though the Archbishop of Canterbury is the sacerdotal head of the Church of England, the nominal and secular head is at present Queen Victoria. The reason why the Archbishop of Canterbury is the priest-head of that church is that his special diocese is the cradle of English Christianity. It was here the authority of the Pope over England was transferred during the reformation to the Episcopal church, Henry VIII. then being the ruler.

PACIFIC CABLE.

Conference Will Report It as Feasible and Necessary.

London, Jan. 6.—The Pacific cable conference will meet within a fortnight in order to sign its report which is already agreed upon. The draft of this report will soon be signed by the Canadian and Australian delegates, who will forward copies to their respective governments.

It is semi-officially stated that the report is unanimous in recommending that the cable be built as it is practically feasible and commercially and politically necessary.

Prussia's Finances.

Berlin, Jan. 9.—In the Prussian Budget for the coming year the revenue and expenditures balance at 2,046,031,385 marks. The extraordinary expenditures are estimated at 90,176,256 marks and are covered by the ordinary receipts. Among the permanent increases in expenditures are 19,560,000 marks additional pay for state officials and 5,312,000 marks for increasing salaries of the teachers in the elementary schools.

Relief Work in India.

Calcutta, Jan. 8.—It is officially announced that 1,250,000 persons are now engaged on the relief works, and it is added that the number will probably reach 2,000,000 during the coming week.

Dreadful Mortality.

Bombay, Jan. 8.—The Times, of India says that, owing to the exodus on account of the plague, the population of Bombay has been reduced one-half. The weekly mortality is 200 per 1,000, and more shops are closed than open in the native quarter.

Zulus On a Raid.

Cape Town, Jan. 8.—The news being received from Bechuanaland is of the most serious description. The maglana and settlers at Kuruman have gone into Langer, and 700 natives of that vicinity are raiding farms, lifting cattle and committing other depredations.

Spanish Report From Manilla.

Madrid, Jan. 11.—Official advices from Manila state that the situation there is greatly improved and that the rebels do not dare to approach the capital. It is reported that six thousand insurgents while trying to cross the isthmus of Novelta, were repulsed with heavy losses.

Fear Another Massacre.

Brussels, Jan. 11.—The Turkish Reform league has issued an appeal to the people of Europe declaring that the sultan has planned a massacre to take place during the approaching ramazan feasts and imploring the powers to interfere and depose the sultan.

May Be the Plague.

London, Jan. 9.—The St. James Gazette this afternoon says that persistent rumors are in circulation at Plymouth that the cases of sickness on board the transport Nubia are not cholera, but bubonic plague.

Want $10,000,000 for the Raid.

Cape Town, Jan. 9.—The Digger News learns that the indemnity bill to be presented by the Transvaal government for the Jameson raid has been nearly completed, and that it will be under £2,000,000. The exact figure, however, is not known.

Do not fail to read Thos. Slater's offer on page 8 for week.

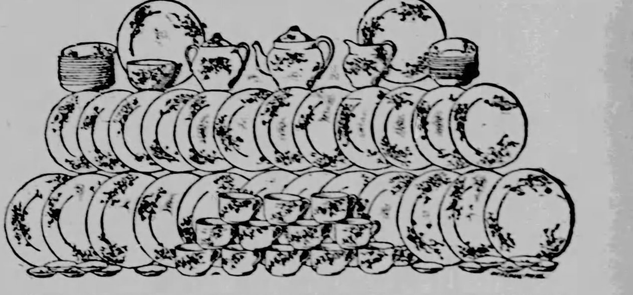
DRUNKENNESS—CURED—PRIVATELY. A Positive Cure for Drunkenness, Opium and Tobacco Habits, no matter how long standing or how much you drink; no hypodermic injections; small doses by mouth; no inconvenience; no loss of time from business; cures guaranteed in from 3 to 5 days. Permanent cures in every case undertaken. Thousands of testimonials from prominent people in every state in the Union. Write for circulars and testimonials. Correspondence strictly confidential. Address, The Dr. Tyrrell Pharmacal Co., 1 Main St., Marshall, Mich. Mention this paper.

DRUNKENNESS—CURED—PRIVATELY. Famous Cure Home treatment. Has been tested the world over without failure. Has cured where others failed. 21 day treatment cures, price $5.00. Opium and Tobacco Habits also cured. Write for particulars to (Sole Proprietors) THE HOME CURE CO., P. O. Box 520, Kansas, Ohio, U. S. A.

BLADE CHINA TEA SETS
AND
DINNER SETS.

Another Reduction—Later Designs.

Eighty, Fifty-six, One Hundred and Eight or Twenty-eight pieces handsomely decorated in several colors and gold band. These goods are made especially for THE BLADE, and we guarantee the highest quality of goods the best grade of workmanship, the latest and most stylish shape of pieces as well as late and artistic design of decoration. The following illustration was reproduced from a photograph of our first 80-piece Tea Set. It gives a fair idea, but we now have later designs and shapes. Also, we give better material and color than formerly.



No. 1.—BLADE STANDARD TEA SET, 80 PIECES.—We call this set (like illustration above) Standard, because it is the same Tea Set we offered last year in connection with the Weekly Blade. We have sold thousands of sets of these goods, and in every case the recipient received more than expected. This year we expect to send out at the reduced prices over Five Thousand Sets. This set consists of 50 pieces, as follows: 12 breakfast plates, 12 tea plates, 12 tea cups, 12 saucers, 12 fruit dishes, 12 individual butter dishes, 2 round cake plates, 1 tea pot, 1 cover, 1 sugar bowl, 1 cover, 1 cream pitcher and 1 bowl.

The No. 1 Blade Standard Tea Set, 80 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, only $5.00 (former price $7); or we will present one of these sets to any person sending us a club of seven subscribers and $7.00. The club of seven names to be sent all at one time.

No. 2.—BLADE TEA SET, 56 PIECES. This set is exactly like the above illustrated 80-piece Tea Set, deducting 12 breakfast plates and 12 individual butter plates.

The No. 2 Tea Set, 56 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade, one year, only $3.75, (former price $5.50); or we will present one of these Sets to any person sending us a club of Six Subscribers and $6. The club of six names to be sent all at one time.

No. 3.—BLADE DINNER SET, 108 PIECES.—We can describe this set by taking the above illustrated 80-piece Tea Set and adding the following: 12 soup plates, 1 8-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 2 8-inch bakers, 1 sauce boat, 2 pickle dishes, 1 covered dish (3 pieces), 2 casseroles, 1 comport, 1 covered butter dish (3 pieces), and 1 jug, making a total of 108 pieces.

The No. 3 Blade Dinner Set, 108 Pieces, and the Weekly Blade one year, only $8.25; or we will present one of these Sets to any person sending us a club of 10 Subscribers and $10. The club of 10 names to be sent all at one time.

No. 4.—BLADE CHINA SORTS, 28 PIECES, consisting of 12 soup plates, 1 8-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 2 8-inch bakers, 1 sauce boat, 2 pickle dishes, 1 covered dish (3 pieces), 2 casseroles, 1 comport, 1 covered butter dish (3 pieces), and 1 jug. We also offer this to those who

WASHINGTON.

TREATY IS SIGNED.

Salisbury Agrees to the Arbitration Treaty.

Washington, Jan.11.—The proposition for a general arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain is now ar accomplished fact. Lord Salisbury has assented to the last suggestion from this side, and nothing now remains but the attachment of the formal signatures of Secretary Olney and Sir Julian Pauncefote, the latter having been clothed with the necessary authority by Lord Salisbury. These signatures, it is understood, will be affixed some time to-day.

Of course the treaty, unlike the Venezuelan agreement, must be submitted to the United States Senate for its approval, and in view of the short time remaining of the present session of Congress every effort will be made to have it submitted to that body at the earliest possible moment, probably within a day or two. The general scope of the treaty is substantially as has been outlined exclusively in the Associated Press dispatches. While full details are not yet obtainable it can be stated that ample provision has been made to guard against a failure of the arbitrators to agree through a tie vote. Proper provision has been made in such case for reference of the matter to a deciding authority. It was Secretary Olney's insistence upon the absolute necessity of guarding against a tie vote which led to a delay in the final draft of the treaty after all the other details had been adjusted to the common satisfaction of the representatives of the two nations.

Oscar the Final Umpire.

It is learned that King Oscar, of Sweden, has been selected and will be named in the general arbitration treaty as the final arbiter in case of a tie vote by the arbitration tribunal on any matter. He either will sit and hear the matter of dispute himself or will name a deputy who will act as the final arbitrator. The treaty is to run five years and thus the Swedish King for that length of time will be the final umpire of all disputes between the two great English speaking nations.

He will act also as the final arbitrator in the Venezuelan dispute and in this dual capacity will come prominently before the world as the foremost representative of the settlement of national disputes by peace instead of force of arms.

KING OSCAR CONSENTS

To Help Out in the Venezuela Dispute.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The last step, aside from the ratification of the treaty by the congress of Venezuela, necessary to give effect to the Venezuelan arbitration agreement between the United States and Great Britain has been completed by the formal assent of King Oscar of Sweden, to the clause of the arbitration convention which makes him the final arbiter in case the other members of the tribunal are unable to agree. The congress of Venezuela meets in February and while there have been some objections raised in Venezuela to the arrangements for a settlement of the long standing boundary dispute it is understood that these objections are not potent enough to prevent ratification of the agreement in the face of its strong endorsement by President Crespo and the members of his cabinet.

The final settlement of this dispute which at one time threatened seriously to interrupt the amicable relations between the United States and Great Britain will be hailed with satisfaction both in this country and Great Britain.

The intervention of the United States to adjust the dispute has had one result not foreseen nor contemplated at the time viz: The drawing closer together of the two great representatives of the English speaking races. As a result of the mutual understanding effected in consequence of their negotiations over Venezuela the United States and Great Britain at this time probably are more nearly in accord in their diplomatic relations than ever before in our history and it is confidently expected that the result will be an agreement on a general scheme or arbitration of all disputes between the two nations save those in which national honor is involved.

It is probable also that closely following the consummation of the agreement as to the Venezuelan boundary dispute there will be a resumption of the diplomatic relations between Venezuela and Great Britain which have been severed for some years as the result of this dispute and that the United States will be the intermediary in bringing this about.

Delivered to the Senate.

Washington, Jan. 12.—The arbitration treaty between this country and Great Britain was delivered to the senate at 3 o'clock yesterday. Afterwards, in executive session, it was referred to the committe on foreign relations, and, without being read, was ordered to be printed. The President's message transmitting the document was read.

Senator Morgan suggested that the treaty should be made public, but Senator Sherman, as chairman of the committee on foreign relations, replied that it should be examined by the committee to which it had been referred before being published. This suggestion was accepted with the understanding that the committee should have the privilege of making the treaty known.

The President's Message.

Washington, Jan. 12.—The following is the text of the President's message transmitting the general arbitration treaty to the senate:

To the senate:

I transmit herewith a treaty for the arbitration of all matters in difference between the United States and Great Britain.

The provisions of the treaty are the result of long and patient deliberation and represent concessions made by each party, for the sake of agreement upon the general scheme.

Though the result reached may not meet the views of the advocates of immediate, unlimited, and irrevocable arbitration of all international controversies it is, nevertheless, confidently believed that the treaty cannot fail to be everywhere recognized as making a long step in the right direction, and as embodying a practical working plan by which disputes between the two countries will reach a peaceful adjustment as matter of course, and in ordinary routine.

In the initiation of such an important movement it must be expected that some of its features will assume a tentative character, looking to a further advance, and yet it is apparent that the treaty which has been formulated not only makes war between the parties to it a remote possibility, but precludes those fears and rumors of war which of themselves too often assume the proportions of a national disaster.

It is eminently fitting, as well as fortunate that the attempt to accomplish results so beneficent should be initiated by kindred peoples, speaking the same tongue and joined together by all the ties of common traditions, common institutions and common aspirations. The experiment of substituting civilized methods for brute force as the means of settling international questions of right will thus be tried under the happiest auspices. Its success ought not to be doubtful, and the fact that its ultimate ensuing benefits are not likely to be limited to the two countries immediately concerned should cause it to be promoted all the more eagerly. The example set and the lesson furnished by the successful operation of this treaty are sure to be felt and taken to heart sooner or later by other nations, and will thus mark the beginning of a new epoch in civilization.

Profoundly impressed as I am, therefore, by the promise of transcendant good which this treaty affords, I do not hesitate to accompany its transmission with an expression of my earnest hope that it may commend itself to the favorable consideration of the Senate.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

Treaty Signed.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The general arbitration treaty has been signed. Sir Julian Pauncefote and Secretary Olney affixing their signatures to the document to-day. If it be possible to transcribe the treaty in time and a strong effort will be made to do so it will be sent to the Senate to-morrow.

As the Globe Sees It.

London, Jan. 11.—The Globe this afternoon says it sees no reason for Britons to rejoice at the conclusion of the arbitration treaty with the United States, adding: "Great Britain's experience in arbitration with Amercia has always been futile and ridiculous. It is no particular triumph for the Marquis of Salisbury's statesmanship and most self-respecting Englishmen would like to forget the circumstances leading to it. The passage in our history beginning with the Venezuelan trouble and President Cleveland's gross insult and ending with the conclusion of the treaty contains nothing to be proud, of and a great deal which most of us would be glad to obliterate."

THE TARIFF BILL.

Rates Will Be Protective, but Moderate.

Washington, Jan. 12.—The ways and means committee has practically ended its tariff hearings, and will now take up the work of shaping up the bill. There was a general round up yesterday, gathering up the odds and ends.

The general impression is that the bill which is to be framed will be a moderate one in the matter of rates, and will at least average something lower than the McKinley law rates. The McKinley act, during the first three years of its operations accomplished exactly what was desired and contemplated by its distinguished author, for it met all expenditure and had a small surplus each year, yet despite the fact that there was sharp criticism of that act, coupled with the further and somewhat remarkable fact that the demands are not for so high rates as usual, will probably result in a bill which will average something lower in rates than thoose of the McKinley law.

Two features of the hearings which have been the subject of frequent remark by those attending them, are the very moderate demands of the average individual appearing before the committee, especially those of manufacturers and the other which is the more noticeable is the silence of the Democratic members of the committee when even a stiff rate of protection is asked. The erstwhile vigilant and perennial McMillin, who in past hearings was wont to "nag" the men who appealed for a high duty nags no more.

The bounding and boundless Wheeler, of Confederate Cavalry fame, who was wont to make bold dashes into the ranks of the protectionists whenever they showed their heads at the ways and means committee room, now reconnoiters with great circumspection, occasionally firing a shot at long distance but seldom coming to close fighting, and the other members on the Democratic side, taking their cue from these veterans sit silently while the protectionists pour shot and shell into the Wilson bill, scarcely raising their voices in its defense.

"I don't know what's the matter with the Democrats," said one of the veteran observers of the ways and means hearings, "they seem to have had the life taken out of 'em in some way. Maybe it's the failure of their low tariff bill to produce the revenue they promised, or it's unsatisfactory work in the matter of advalorem duties. Certainly they have given up their old tactics, and have let even the stiffest sort of protection demands go without any of the sort of tactics which formerly characterized all tariff hearings. I don't believe, however, that the bill is going to be an extreme one, for, aside from the agriculturists the requests for protection have been unusually moderate. The farmers have come to the front this time, in great shape, and are likely to get a pretty thorough protection in the bill I think especially as in many of the other schedules the demand is unusually modest."

Congress in Brief.

Washington, Jan. 6.—The Senate yesterday passed the House bill abolishing the death penalty in a large number of cases. The measure is in the line of the recent state laws abolishing capital punishment and applies the same principle to federal offenses. The bill reduces the offenses to five, viz.: Treason, rape, murder and two offenses applicable to the army and navy. In all other offenses hard labor for life is substituted as the maximum punishment.

During the day Mr. Call (Dem., Fla.) introduced resolutions calling for information as to the condemnation of Julio Sanguilly at Havana, and also directing the secretary of state to demand Sanguilly's release.

Mr. Peffer (Pop., Kan.) delivered a speech in support of his resolution for a national monetary commission.

House—The House entered upon its work immediately after assembling yesterday by taking up the Loud bill to amend the laws relating to second class mail matter. The whole day was devoted to general debate on the measure under a special order which will bring the bill to a vote this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Washington, Jan. 7.—The speech of Senator Call, of Florida, on Cuba yesterday served as a medium for making public a letter giving a graphic description of the Cabanas fortress at Havana, and the surroundings of the Cuban citizens imprisoned there. It told of the pitiful condition of the prisoners, some of them Americans, including Julio Sanguilly and a young man who was the companion of Gelabert and the American newspaper correspondent killed in Cuba. The recital of these prisoners was given in full.

At the close of the speech, the Senate agreed to Mr. Call's resolution requesting the secretary of state for all correspondence relating to the case of Julio Sanguilly. The other resolution, demanding Sanguilly's immediate release, was referred to the committee on foreign relations.

During the day the Senate passed house bills amending the laws relating to timber culture, and authorizing brevets to active or retired officers of the army or navy.

The joint resolution requesting the British government to pardon Mrs. Florence Maybrick was indefinitely postponed.

The bill exempting settlers on public lands from paying the original government price fixed on the lands was debated, but a final vote was not reached.

House—The House, in bill to amend the law relating to second class matter was passed by the house to-day, after two days of debate, by a vote of 144 to 105. The opposition to the bill made a strong fight.

Mr. Grosvenor (Rep., O.) created a slight flurry at the opening of the session of the House by securing the adoption as a question of privilege of a resolution calling on the several departments for statements as to why they had failed to comply with a former resolution requesting information relative to the administration of the civil service law.

Washington, Jan. 8.—The Senate had a long and busy session yesterday, passing a number of bills on the calendar, including several amendments to the law of navigation. Progress was made on the bill for free homesteads on Indian lands, but a final vote was not reached. Mr. Platt opposed the bill in a lengthy speech, pointing out that it would cost the government a loss of many millions. It was disclosed during the day that Representative-elect Edward E. Robbins was the author of the letters from Havana read in the Senate Wednesday. The other Cuban development of the day was a joint resolution offered by Mr. Mills (Dem., Tex.), declaring that the power of recognizing a new republic resides in Congress, requesting the independence of Cuba and appropriating $100,000 for a United States minister to the republic of Cuba.

House—The Pacific railroad funding bill, which is considered the most important piece of legislation which will come before Congress at this session, came up yesterday in the House under a special order, which allows two days for general debate and one day for amendments and debate under the five-minute rule, with a provision for a final vote on Monday next. There was a great deal of interest in the measure and the members gave all the speakers very close attention.

Washington, Jan. 12.—The Pacific railroad funding bill went to its death in the House yesterday under an adverse majority of 66. The friends of the measure who had predicted its passage up to the last moment were surprised by the decisive character of their defeat. They had been led to hope from the votes on the substitutes that the bill had more than an even chance of passage. This is the fourth funding bill killed in the House in ten years. An analysis of the vote yesterday shows that 86 Republicans and 16 Democrats voted for the bill, and 99 Republicans, 58 Democrats, 6 Populists and 5 independents against it.

After the bill was disposed of the army appropriation bill and several others were passed. The army bill carries $23,126,344, $155,558 less than that for the current year.

Senate.—The chief event of yesterday's Senate session was an impassioned speech by Mr. Mills, of Texas, in favor of a resolution introduced by him to declare recognition of a foreign government a Congressional prerogative, and to recognize the importance of Cuba and appropriate $10,000 for the salary of a minister. There was an informal discussion by several senators, and Mr. Bacon, of Georgia, gave notice of a speech to-day.

Thos. Slater has a message for every man on page 3. Don't fail to read it.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

KILLED IN THE HOUSE

Was the Pacific Railroad Funding Bill.

Washington, Jan. 11.—Intense interest was manifested in the outcome of the battel royal over the Pacific railroad funding bill, which came to a vote in the House to-day. Before the House convened, the floor was crowded with friends and opponents of the measure, and members were standing about in groups arguing the merits of the bill. Such a scene of bustling activity has not been seen on the floor this ession. The galleries also were well filled with interested spectators.

It required some time to straighten out the parliamentary situation. Speaker Reed stated his understanding of the status. There were, he said, no pending amendments to the bill. There were, however, two substitutes, that of Mr. Harrison, of Alabama, to provide for a commission of three cabinet officers to negotiate a settlement of the debts with the two roads, and the Bell substitute providing that if the roads would clear off the first mortgage so as to advance the government lien to the position of a first mortgage, the government would agree to an extension of the period for the payment of the debt at 3 per cent interest.

To the former substitute there was pending an amendment, proposed by Mr. Northway, of Ohio, providing that the commission created should be appointed by the secretary of the treasury, secretary of the Interior and Attorney-General, instead of consisting of those three cabinet officers.

The Northway amendment, he said, was to be voted on first, then the substitutes in their order. If either of the substitutes were adopted, it would, he said, take the place of the original bill.

Bell Substitute Failed.

After some wrangling, the speaker's statement of the situation was accepted by the House. The Northway amendment to the Harrison substitute was defeated on a viva voce vote, after which the Bell substitute was submitted. Without dividing, Mr. Bell, the author of the substitute, demanded a record making vote. His demand was sustained by seventy odd members, mostly on the Democratic side, and the roll was called.

As the voting proceeded it was evident that the substitute would fail and the friends of the bill were correspondingly jubilant. Senator White, of California, Senator Daniel, and other Senators from the north end of the capitol were present at various stages of the proceedings and watched the progress of the struggle with keen interest.

There was a flurry when the speaker announced the defeat of the bill substitute, 110-156. The opposition appeared somewhat staggered, but it was pointed out that the California members and others known to be opposed to the measure voted against the substitute.

Harrison Substitute Likewise.

The Harrison substitute was then submitted; on a viva voce vote the volume of sound was distinctly against the substitute, and the speaker was about to declare it defeated when Mr. Harrison (Dem., Ala.) demanded the ayes and nays. On this ballot the Harrison substitute was defeated, ayes 55, nays 214.

After the Harrison substitute was defeated the opposition decided to make a final stand on the motion to engross the bill and read it a third time. This was a square test of strength. Mr. Maguire's demand for a roll call was seconded by a large number of members apparently almost half the house. The interest was intense while the vote was being taken.

The Knockout Blow.

The result of the first critical roll call on the motion to engross and read the bill the third time, ayes 85; nays 145.

The final vote on the funding bill stood: Yeas 102, nays 162. This kills the bill outright.

Mr. Powers moved to recommit the funding bill. Mr. Dockery (Dem., Mo.) made the point of order that the motion was not in order.

It was decided to allow the question as to whether Mr. Powers's motion was in order to go over until to-morrow to allow the speaker to examine the precedents.

What It Means.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The Pacific Railroad funding bill, voted upon in the House to-day, involves the settlement of the $112,000,000 of indebtedness of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific, on the basis of an extension of over 80 years at 2 per cent, with an annual extinguishment payment on the principal at the rate of $365,000 for the first ten years, $580,000 for the second years, and $750,000 for the remaining years. It involves as the alternative of its defeat the probable immediate foreclosure of the government's lien and the sale of property. It is the culmination of the struggle which has gone on in Congress for a dozen years to secure some sort of an adjustment of the Pacific railroad indebtedness on the basis of an extension, as it has been apparent for a long period that the road would default when the bonds matured.

The interests at stake are gigantic, and the friends of the bill are straining every nerve.

THE WOOL MEN

Express Their Views On Tariff to the Committee.

Washington, Jan. 6.—The hearing on the wool schedule of the tariff brought many farmers and manufacturers to the ways and means committee room to-day. The first speaker was John G. Clark, of the Washington County, Pennsylvania, Wool Growers' association. He spoke strongly of the effects of the free wool clause of the Wilson law, which, he declared, had prostrated the business in the United States. The experiment of free trade had been a crime. The value of lands had declined and sheep men all parts of the country had been driven from business. The sheep raisers asked only a moderate duty that would enable them to continue in business.

The Democratic members of the committee probed the witness for some time. Mr Wheeler, of Alabama, asked if clothing for the workingmen had not been cheaper under free wool, to which Mr. Clark replied that most of the clothing sold now was shoddy. Importations of shoddy had increased under the law.

Mills Closed.

One hour was given to Judge William Lawrence, the president of the National Wool Growers' association, to present the request of that body. This statement was an exhaustive review of the wool industry under different tariff rates during the last half century. Speaking of effects of the Wilson law, he declared that it had stopped one-third of the wool-growing business and closed one-half of the mills in the country. There had been no adequate protection on wool since 1867.

The schedule asked by the wool growers' association was 12 cents a pound on all mereno wools, 24 cents on washed, and 36 cents on scoured, Australian unwashed wools to be considered as washed. On account of its superior lightness, they said, the Australian had an advantage over South American, losing comparatively little weight in washing. The dropping of the skirting clause was asked, as to secure its advantages the parts of Australian wool imported amounted to only half the fleece. To do away with this clause it was said, would give employment to 5,000 men in this country.

NO OBJECTION.

Will Be Made to the Bill for a Monetary Conference.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Senator Chandler has practically made a canvas of the Senate on the proposition for an international conference on silver, and concludes there will be no opposition worth the name. Still, the bill will not be introduced in the Senate until it is accepted by the Republican caucus, as the committee were instructed to report to the caucus.

Large and Distinguished Body of Men Assembles.

Special Telegram to The Blade.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 12.—The wide lobby of the Denison was filled with a busy throng of delegates to the monetary conference, discussing the action advisable to be taken. Opinions take a wide range. There is an apparent chrysalization of sentiment among the delegates from the East and South that a committee should be appointed to consider and mature plans, and be allowed 60 to 90 days time; then the gathering to reconvene, discuss and adopt its report, and then press it on Congress through the medium of the great commercial organizations all over the country.

The Western men, headed by some of the Chicago delegates, are opposd to this. They think there should be nothing but an expression of opinion as to what objects should be reached by Congressional legislation, leaving it to the law-makers to decide upon the most available methods of reaching these desired results. As the convention is gathering for its opening session, it looks as though the preponderance of delegates are with the former plan.

There is but one issue in the currency controversy which this body will not touch. That is, there will be no discussion as to what ought to be the basic money. All are gold men, apparently. The discussions will be on greenbacks, the extension of national banks and the unifying of our present hodge-podge monetary system.

Men of Brains.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 12.—The currency reform convention has brought to the Hoosier capital as large and distinguished a gathering as was present in the fall of last year, placed Generals Palmer and Buckner in the field as Presidential nominees of the National Democrats. On this occasion, however, the gathering is distinctly non-partisan. Governor Asa Bushnell heads the Ohio delegation, and Sam P. Sheerin, for many years secretary of the Democratic national committee, that from this state. From Chicago comes Lyman J. Gage, the noted financier and president of the First National Bank, John J. Mitchell, another big banker, Michael Cudahy, the packer, and George H. Webster, until recently the right-hand man of P. D. Armour. Cincinnati's most prominent representative is M. E. Ingalls, president of the Big Four railroad. Ex-Congressman Joseph H. Outhwaite heads the delegation from Columbus, O., and Augustus E. Wilson that from the Louisville board of trade and allied organizations. Kansas City sends about a dozen of its most prominent commercial men. Other cities represented are Detroit, Buffalo, St. Paul, Boston, Nashville, Tenn., Milwaukee, Middletown, Conn., the delegation from which is headed by the governor of the state, O. Vincent Coffin; Hartford, Conn.; Youngstown, O., and St. Louis. Altogether it is estimated that between 400 and 500 delegates are in the city. The convention will be called to order in Tomlinson's hall this afternoon by H. H. Hanna, chairman of the executive committee.

Business Men's Duty.

This great monetary convention, which is expected to have a potent influence upon the financial policy of the incoming national administration and the congress that assembles in March next, had its origin in a conference of representatives of commercial bodies of this city, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Louisville, Columbus, Cleveland, Toledo and Grand Rapids, held here on the first of December last. At this conference, after a free interchange of opinions between Republicans, Gold Democrats and Silver Democrats, it was unanimously agreed that a remedy should be sought from congress for the ills attending the present currency and banking system, and that to this end there should be a strictly non-partisan convention of representative men chosen from boards of trade, chambers of commerce, commercial clubs or similar commercial bodies, for the purpose of considering and suggesting such legislation as in their judgment would be necessary to place the currency system of the country upon a sound and permanent basis. In its call the executive committee, used this language:

"It is the right and duty of the business men of the nation, in a matter of such vital business concern, to render to this cause all the aid which their experience and knowledge can afford. These owe it to themselves as citizens of the republic and as a matter of business self-preservation to participate actively, and, we believe, efficiently, in this movement. The business men have been accused of neglect of political duties. In ordinary times that may be some foundation for this charge, but at every critical juncture in the history of our country, they have, in the spirit of enlightened patriotism risen to the full measure of their duty; and we believe that the painful experience of the country under the existing laws admonishes the business men that we have reached the point where it is their duty to take an active part in helping to solve the great questions involved."

The Programme Outlined.

The programme as outlined by the executive committee is designed to expedite the real business as much as possible. The convention may conclude by Thursday evening. It is proposed to have a strong committee, to which shall be referred all resolutions, many written speeches and all of the individual plans for reforming the currency. This committee is to be instructed to report to the convention as often as necessary. It is expected "indefinitely to postpone" such speeches and plans as it thinks not worthy of the consideration of the convention, and to report favorably on such plans as show mature thought. It is certain that there will be many plans and resolutions presented that, even with much weeding, there will be enough left to give the convention ample food for discussion.

FOUL MASSACRE

Of British Consular Officers On the Nile.

Bonny, Guinea Coast, Jan. 12.—Consul Phillips, two consular officers, Locke and Campbell, Major Crawford, the deputy commander, and Captains Bissagon and Malins, officers belonging to the Niger coast forces, Dr. Elliott and two civilians, with a number of Kroomen and native carriers, have all been massacred by the king's people while on a peaceful mission to Benin City.

On a Peaceful Mission.

London, Jan. 12.—The foreign office has received private confirmation of the news from Bonny, on the Guinea coast, telling of the massacre of Consul Phillips and his companions while on a peaceful mission to Benin City. The news has created a great sensation, as the victims are all well known.

Were surprised and massacred on the frontier territory at Benin City. The object of the murder is not yet known.

The officials add that the expedition was unarmed and was endeavoring peacefully to enter Benin City, with the view of opening trade relations with the inhabitants. The officials do not believe that a single white man of the party escaped. The party included 250 carriers, of whom seven succeeded in escaping.

Benin City is within the Niger protectorate, and is 60 miles up the river Benin. The population is 50,000, and it is governed by a fetish priesthood, which is notorious for human sacrifices. It is thought that the massacre is possibly connected with the recent escape of the King of the Okria tribe to New Calabas, who was captured by the British.

Foxes in Alaska.

Washington, Jan. 8.—The House committee on territories has informally agreed to report the bill which has passed the Senate authorizing the secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, to lease certain islands in Alaska for terms of twenty years, for the purpose of propagating the silver fox. At present the lease can be for but one year, which is not sufficient for the purpose proposed.

CONSUMPTION

TO THE EDITOR: I have an absolute Cure for CONSUMPTION and all Bronchial, Throat and Lung Troubles, and all conditions of Wasting Away. By its timely use thousands of apparently hopeless cases have been *permanently cured*. So proof-positive am I of its power to cure, I will send *FREE* to anyone afflicted, THREE BOTTLES of my Newly Discovered Remedies, upon receipt of Express and Postoffice address.

Always sincerely yours,

T. A. SLOCUM, M.C., 181 Pearl St., New York.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

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Is the only safe and perfectly harmless remedial agent in vogue that will instantly stop pain. It instantly relieves and soon cures Headache, whether sick or nervous; Toothache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Pains and Weakness in the Back, Spine or Kidneys, Pains around the Liver, Pleurisy, Swelling of the Joints, Sprains, Bruises and Pains of all kinds. RADWAY'S READY RELIEF. Sold by Druggists all the world over.

LOST TO SPAIN.

Does Can Never Subdue the Isle of Cuba.

New York, Jan. 12.—In a Washington dispatch to the Journal Senator-elect Money, of Mississippi, who recently visited Cuba to study the situation in that country, says concerning his trip:

"I will say that everything I saw and heard taught me that Spain is unable to cope with the insurrection. She will never put it down. Spain will never end this war with victory to herself. This is also the opinion of Consul General Fitzhugh Lee, and he has heretofore expressed it to Secretary Olney. He has told the secretary of state that the insurrectionists, whether soon or late, were bound to succeed. The last thing General Fitzhugh Lee said to me as I left Havana was:

"'Please see Secretary Olney and tell him that I am more firmly convinced than ever that Spain cannot put down the insurrection, and that every day it continues means a loss of life and property, without the remotest encouragement of any final Spanish success. As I long since told him, the insurrection will succeed. My judgment to that effect receives daily confirmation.'

"Yesterday I saw Secretary Olney and communicated to him General Lee's message. I am not permitted, however, to make public Mr. Olney's comments."

DEBATE ON CUBA.

Senator Mills On Prerogatives of Congress.

Washington, Jan. 11.—There were less than twenty senators in their seats when business began to-day. The vice-president announced a communication from the secretary of the interior giving the amounts due the sinking funds of the Union and Central Pacific railroads on account of mail subsidies paid by them to the Pacific Mail Steamship Company. These were the accounts which it was reported, could not be found, but subsequently were discovered in the interior department.

On a motion by Mr. Hoar the house bill for a uniform bankruptcy law was made a special order for Monday, January 25.

Mr. Mills called up the resolution introduced by him declaring that the determination of the expediency of recognizing the independence of a foreign government belongs to Congress and when Congress shall so determine the executive should act in harmony with the legislative department of the government. Also recognizing the independence of the republic of Cuba and appropriating $10,000 for the salary of a minister thereto and proceeded to address the senate upon it.

Mr. Mills began by saying that the secretary of state had challenged the authority of Congress to recognize the independence of a foreign state, and had said that a bill passed over the veto of the President would be of no effect.

"This is a most remarkable statement," commented Mr. Mills upon Secretary Olney's declaration, from which he quoted. "The respect that I have for he secretary of state and the high office he holds and for his chief and the high office he holds restrains me from saying more."

"He has his duty and I have mine. The President must not say to the Congress of the United States, 'This is none of your business.'"

Mr. Mills read from President Monroe's message of March, 1822, relating to the recognition of South American republics in revolution against Spain. Monroe, he said, had recognized that both branches of the government had a duty imposed upon them in the recognition of foreign governments and that there must be co-operation.

Monroe had not said: "I have sent an ambassador," but, "if Congress should concur," in his views he would recognize the new governments. How, in the face of that precedent, he inquired, could the President of the United States and the secretary of state stand before the people of the United States and say they had the sole right to recognize a foreign government with which they were to have commercial relations.

Weyler Not to Be Withdrawn.

Madrid, Jan. 6.—The Epoca publishes a formal denial that the government has any intention of superseding Gen. Weyler as captain general of Cuba.

FOR THE INDIANS.

Appropriation Bill for the Next Year Completed.

Washington, Jan. 9.—The Indian appropriation bill for the next fiscal year was completed to-day by the House committee on Indian affairs and reported to the House by Chairman Sherman. The bill carries a total of $7,465,000, which is somewhat less than the appropriation of the current year. The allowance for schools, however, is increased by $250,000, and provision is made for starting the new schools at Chamberlain and Rapid City, S. D., where establishments was provided for by the last bill. There is an item continuing the Dawes commission with special salaries and compensation, and $40,000 is given for the expenses of the commission of citizens who serve without compensation.

OF ALL KINDS

Were the Items Discussed in the Tariff Hearing To-Day.

Washington, Jan. 11.—The ways and means considered the miscellaneous articles coming under the tariff law and the free list as well to-day. The subjects brought a large crowd to the capitol.

Representative Corliss, of Michigan, asked for protection on tobacco, lumber, fish and other products of his district.

J. Richard Smith, of Waterbury, Conn., asked for specific duties so far as possible on vegetable ivory buttons.

Rudolph Lederman, of New York, spoke for specific duties on glass and metal buttons.

The coal tar manufacturers were represented by N. S. Greenough, of Cleveland. Pitch, the chief product of coal tar, he said, was largely imported and coal tar somewhat. A duty of $2 a ton on pitch and specific duties on coal tar were wanted.

"Your business would simply change gas making from water gas to coal gas, and not give work to a single laborer," commented Mr. Payne.

J. C. Storey, of Boston, said that it was peculiar that a representative of the gas companies should appear to ask a duty on bi-product of gas, and combatted the proposition to put on duties. The products were used for refining and paving, and the gas manufacturer did not produce enough to supply the home demand.

William Golder, of Chicago, recommended duties on moss peat, which is now on the free list. Foreign dealers had charged $30 a ton before Americans entered the business, and had dropped to $12, less than it could be produced here. Four dollars a ton duty was asked. The chief cost was labor, and sufficient material could be found in Jackson county, Wisconsin, to supply the United States.

Kennett Barnhart, a representative of Marshall Field & Co., of Chicago, advocated moderation in the tariff and specific duties. As an average an advalorem duty of 50 per cent yielded but 35 per cent. The bulk of the importing trade was in the hands of foreign manufacturers who were able to sell goods here cheaper than Marshall Field & Co. could land them in New York. The paragraph allowing duties equal to the manufacturers' cost plus 8 per cent was the most disadvantageous to Americans under the system of consignments. In many instances the firm found it cheaper to buy goods of consignees on this side than to buy them abroad.

"That is proof positive of fraud," Mr. Dingley remarked.

Archbishop Martinelli Does Not Expect Any Interference.

Washington, Jan. 11.—Archbishop Martinelli has denied absolutely all reports asserting that he has received any directions of any kind from the pope to approach the United States government regarding its attitude towards the Cuban rebellion. He added that he did not expect any communication from the vatican on the subject. He furthermore called attention to the fact that he was merely an apostolic delegate to the United States, to deal with the bishops of the Catholic church, that he was not a Loncio, and that the government did not recognize nor have any dealings with him.

PLAYING AT WAR.

The Fleet Will Blockade the Port of Charleston.

Washington, Jan. 9.—The people of Charleston, S. C., and vicinity are promised a novel winter entertainment. Secretary Herbert, after consultation with Admiral Bunce, commanding the North Atlantic squadron, has decided to allow the admiral to undertake the blockade of Charleston.

Charleston was selected as the objective point because of the fine winter climate and the availability of Hampton Roads and Port Royal, S. C., as bases for the blockading fleet. The fun will begin early in February, the exact date depending upon the ability of the navy yard people to get the ships ready. Every one of the ships that can be supplied with a crew will participate either as a blockader or a blockade runner.

VACANT SEATS

Will Be a Feature in the New Senate.

Washington, Jan. 8.—Nobody need be surprised to see the next senate of the United States composed of but 87, or possibly 86 members, at least for a considerable time after it meets in special session after the inauguration of the new president. The full number of members, if all states were fully represented, would be, as everybody knows, 90 men. But the developments of the past few days lead many people who are following the situation closely to believe that three or perhaps four of the states having senatorial terms which expire March 4th, may fail to elect senators in time to participate in the extra session, and that the seats in question therefore may be vacant, for at least a part of the extra session.

Those who have followed the situation in Delaware are of the opinion that the complication there has become such that the chances are that two claimants will probably be sent from that state, each claiming the right to the seat now vacant.

The Republicans, it is believed from all that can be gathered here, have ample grounds for their contest regarding the validity of the election of members from two of the three counties in the legislature, and this will be easily shown. This will mean a contest against the Democratic claimant, whoever he may be or with whatever claim he may come, as it seems certain that the Republicans will send a man claiming the seat also. That the Democrats will send a claimant for it, elected by some sort of process, goes without saying, and with two men appearing and claiming the seat, it would probably be held as vacant until the claim should be decided, which would of course be many weeks after the senate should meet.

The term of Senator Call of Florida, expires on March 4th, and the legislature does not meet to elect a senator until near the middle of April, and the precedents against admitting an appointed man under such circumstances are numerous and likely to be such as to lead to the omission to appoint, or to the rejection of any claimant who might come with an appointment.

The hope of the Democrats now is that the seat occupied at present by Senator Blackburn, of Kentucky, may also remain vacant, for they have no hope of electing a Democrat to it. Even the most vigorous of the Democrats here, who are familiar with the situation in that state, say there is not the slightest chance of the election of a Democrat and that their only hope is to see the present tangle continue so as to prevent Governor Bradley calling the legislature in special session to elect a Republican.

From the West come reports of a somewhat similar condition in at least two states, but not with sufficient detail to warrant any predictions as to the final result.

LIVE STOCK INSPECTED.

Nearly 36,000,000 Head Passed Before Keen Official Eyes.

Washington, Jan. 6.—More than 23,000,000 head of live stock, afterward killed for food, were inspected by government officers during the last year. The number inspected before being transferred from one market to another was 12,641,000 additional during the same period. This makes the total for the year 35,917,000 head, an increase of more than 50 per cent over the previous year.

In 1892 the number of head inspected was only 3,800,000, and in 1893 it was 4,885,000. The secretary of agriculture sent to the Senate the annual report of the bureau of animal industry for the last fiscal year. It contains these facts:

The 23,275,739 inspections of stock about to be slaughtered, included 4,050,-011 cattle, 4,710,190 sheep, 213,375 calves and 14,301,963 hogs. The 12,641,740 inspections of stock about to be transferred to other markets, embraced 3,479,512 cattle, 1,668,484 sheep, 101,271 calves and 7,452,863 hogs. The cost of the live stock inspection was $341,456.24 or 9,500ths of 1 cent for each antemortem inspection. In the previous year the cost was 1 1-10 cents; in 1894 1⅝ cents, and in 1893 4¼ cents.

During last year there were 13,289,680 quarters and pieces of beef; 328,589 carcasses of hogs, 15,969 sacks of pork; 3,516,896 carcasses of sheep, and 183,685 carcasses of calves tagged or otherwise marked as inspected meat. Of these there were exported 1,030,334 quarters, and 16,818 smaller pieces of beef (equivalent to nearly 260,000 cattle), 249 carcasses of sheep, and 3,281 carcasses of hogs.

The average cost of microscopical inspection of pork was 6.18 cents for every piece examined.

AMERICAN CHEESE.

Agricultural Department Makes an Interesting Report.

Washington, Jan. 7.—The Agricultural Department has issued a bulletin on the history, development and present condition of the cheese industry of New York state. Under "The Future of the American Cheese Trade" some causes of discouragement are noted, especially the Canadian and Australasian competition, the immense quantities of filled cheese manufactured and sold as "full-cream cheese," and the effect of the Raines law which forbids the saloons to offer free lunches, and thus closes an annual market for at least 15,000,000 pounds of cheese.

THE CHOCTAW NATION.

Lobby in Washington Working for a Treaty.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Messrs. Ainsworth, Stanley & Anderson, a sub-committee of the delegation appointed by the Choctaw Nation to represent it in its dealings with the Dawes Indian commission, have reached here, and had an interview with Secretary Francis. Some opposition to the ratification of the treaty may develop, and the Choctaw delegates are here to furnish Congress whatever information may be desired, and to endeavor to secure early action.

Oregon Ordered to Sea.

Washington, Jan. 7.—The battleship Oregon now at Mare Island, Cal., has been ordered to sea. She will sail about the 13th inst., on a cruise along the Lower California coast.

Markets and Crops.

OHIO CROPS.

Official Reports Show the Wheat Has Been Badly Frozen.

Columbus, O., Jan. 6.—The report of the state board of agriculture for January 1, issued to-day, shows that wheat has been seriously injured in Ohio by severe freezing. In the Northeastern and Western parts of the state there is not a good stand of wheat. The wheat plant condition is put at 88 per cent of a full average; rye, 91 per cent; corn, condition in crib, 95; in shock, 88; proportion unhusked, 11 per cent.

Hogs, condition, 95 per cent; number yet fattening in farmers' hands, 26 per cent; fall pigs, number 80 per cent; condition, 95 per cent. Cattle, condition, 97; sheep, 94; horses, 97.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

One Result of the Failures of 1896.

New York, Jan. 9.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: The year 1897 begins with one clear advantage—the past year has swept out of the way a number of unsound concerns, which in any time of activity would have been dangerous to business. Of the 15,226 commercial and banking failures in 1896, with liabilities of $276,815,449, a large share represented crippling losses in previous years, or the violence of speculative storms in 1893, or the first half of 1896, while thousands more resulted from the fury of the political tornado last fall. Banking failures amounting to $50,718,915 during the year averaged $256,156 each and were 145 per cent larger than in 1895.

Commercial failures amounted to $226,096,834, a little over $1,000,000 having been added by the last day of the year, but the average of liabilities, $14,992 was smaller than in some years of great prosper